





Division *Exhibit*
Section *Part 4*
1882-1910



FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES

AT

MERCERSBURG, PA., OCTOBER 5, 1886.

PHILADELPHIA:

REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD,
907 ARCH STREET.

1886.

LEMMATA.

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Fourteenth Annual Meeting.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

*Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States
at its Annual Sessions, in Mercersburg, Pa., in the month of October,
in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-six.
The Sessions commenced on the evening of the fifth and continued until
the evening of the eleventh day of the month, inclusive, at 10.30 o'clock.*

ARTICLE I. OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in Trinity Reformed Church, of Mercersburg, Franklin County, Pa., on Tuesday evening, October 5th, A.D. 1886, at 7 o'clock, agreeably to appointment of the last annual meeting, and was opened with appropriate religious services. The President of the previous year, Rev. J. S. Kieffer, D.D., preached the opening sermon from Matthew 13: 52—"Then said He unto them. Therefore every scribe, which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven, is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old." At the conclusion of the sermon, the President called the Synod to order, and formally opened it with prayer. Whereupon the provisional roll was called, and a quorum was found to be in attendance.

ARTICLE II. DELEGATES PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers:—Jacob O. Miller, D.D., Alfred F. Dreisbach and Frederick J. Sauerber.^e

Elders:—Charles A. Shultz, Jeremiah Z. Hildebrand,^e John H. Bowman and John Deissinger.^e

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers:—J. Spangler Kieffer, D.D., Simon S. Miller, Edmund R. Eschbach, D.D.,^f William Rupp, D.D., Adam S. Weber, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, John G. Noss,^d William Goodrich, Andrew J. Heller,³ Nehemiah H. Skyles.^e

Elders:—Peter W. Shaffer, Daniel B. Seibert, Daniel Biser, David S. Firor and Greenbury J. R. House.⁴

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers:—Jonas B. Shontz, William C. Cremer, Cyrus Cort, J. William Knappenberger and George B. Russell, D.D.^{2e}

Elders:—Samuel Hoefflich, Jacob Heyser, Jacob Whitmore, Henry Omwake^e and Henry Mickley.²

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers :—Samuel L. Callender, D.D., John A. Hoffheins, Barton R. Carnahan, Alpha K. Kline, Samuel L. Whitmore and Benjamin F. Bausmann.^f

Elders :—John H. Bauserman,^d Henry W. Roller, John Fitz²^d and Theodore H. Davis.⁵

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Minister :—G. William Welker, D.D.^f

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF GETTYSBURG.

Ministers :—Thomas J. Barkley, Milton H. Sangree, Franklin A. Guth, Henry Hilbush² and John H. Hartman.²

Elders :—Jacob R. Witmor,^c Solomon Schwartz^e and Henry Wirt.

VII. FROM THE CLASSIS OF CARLISLE.

Ministers :—George E. Addams and Amos H. Kremer, D.D.

Elders :—Moses Hess, Jacob Wetzel and Henry M. Cocklin.

VIII. FROM THE CLASSIS OF JUNIATA.

Ministers :—Ellis N. Kremer, Isaac N. Peightel, Cyrus J. Musser,ⁱ Calvin U. Heilman, Diodorus S. Dieffenbacher, Andrew T. G. Apple² and J. David Miller.

Elders :—John P. Reed, Samuel Sprankle,^d David Aurandt and Robert C. Smith.²

IX. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

No delegates present.

X. FROM THE CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

No delegates present.

The figure at the end of a name indicates the day of the sessions on which the delegate took his seat.

The letters in their order indicate the day on which the delegates obtained leave of absence.

The seat of Rev. A. J. Heller was occupied by the alternate, Rev. E. Ranson Deatrick, during the first and second sessions, and by the alternate, Rev. Marion L. Firor, during the third session. Rev. M. L. Firor also occupied the seat of the Rev. J. G. Noss during the seventh session.

The alternate, Rev. George W. Anghinbaugh, D.D., occupied the seat of the Rev. G. B. Russell, during the first session, and the alternate, Rev. Jacob Hassler, was admitted to the said seat at the opening of the ninth session, and occupied it during the remaining sessions of Synod. The alternate, Elder Abraham Kieffer was admitted on Monday morning to the seat previously held by Elder H. Omwake.

The alternate, Rev. John C. Bowman, occupied for the first two sessions the seat of Rev. H. Hilbush, until he arrived.

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT.

The following ministers were enrolled as advisory members, who were present during one or more of the sessions, namely:

Maryland Classis.—Revs. Marion L. Firor, E. Ranson Deatrick, Leighton G. Kremer and David A. Souders.

Mercersburg Classis.—Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, J. Hassler, G. W. Aughinbaugh, D.D., Jeriah S. Shade and Morris Z. Hittel.

Virginia Classis.—Rev. Henry St. John Rinker.

Gettysburg Classis.—Revs. John C. Bowman and David N. Dittmar.

Portland-Oregon Classis.—Rev. A. J. Olinger.

Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.—Revs. C. G. Fisher, A. C. Whitmer and H. T. Spangler.

Synod of Ohio.—Rev. D. B. Shuey.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence was announced of Revs. W. T. L. Kieffer, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Mercersburg; J. W. Feight, pastor of the Methodist Church of Mercersburg; M. L. Culler, pastor of the Lutheran Church of Mercersburg; J. P. Miller, pastor of the United Brethren Church of Chambersburg; and Wm. Weir, of the United Presbyterian Church, District Secretary of the National Reform Association.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. Wm. Goodrich, *President*, Clear Spring, Md.

Elder John P. Reed, *Vice-President*, Bedford, Pa.

Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.

Elder Jacob Heyser, *Corresponding Secretary*, Chambersburg, Pa.

Elder Henry Wirt, *Treasurer*, Hanover, Pa.

Rev. John A. Hoffheins, *Reading Clerk*, Martinsburg, W. Va.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The reading of the Synod's Rules of Order was dispensed with, and the limits of the *Bar of the House* were defined to consist of the first seven pews of the church.

The special committee, to whom the Rules of Order adopted by the General Synod of Baltimore had been referred for examination and modification by the Synod at Hanover two years ago, reported as follows, which was received and adopted, namely:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RULES OF ORDER.

The special committee, to whom the Rules of Order, adopted by the General Synod of 1884, were referred for careful examination and necessary modification, begs leave to submit the following report:

It is not deemed necessary or desirable to make radical changes, so that the Rules of Order of this Synod should be essentially different from those adopted by the other judicatories of our Church. Entire conformation, indeed, would be desirable, and should be aimed at as far as possible. A number of the old Rules are found incorporated in the new Rules of Order, in changed phraseology, which your committee does not consider an improvement in the Rules themselves as thus changed, but does not think it necessary to change them back to their old form or phraseology.

But as several of the new Rules incorporated into the Rules of Order, adopted by the General Synod in 1884, are plainly in violation of the Constitution, at present in force in our Church, we respectfully recommend the adoption of the General Synod's Rules of Order, as adopted by that body in 1884, and found printed in the Minutes of the General Synod for the year just named, with the following exceptions and modifications, to wit:

Exceptions.

Rule 7. Because the Rule is plainly in violation of Article 54 of our Constitution, and furthermore because the *quorums* in our ecclesiastical judicatories are all fixed by the Constitution itself, and cannot, therefore, be altered by any Rule that may be adopted.

Rule 65. Because the Constitution of our Church requires the election in certain cases to be by vote or ballot, and no judicatory has a right to make the election in those cases by acclamation, if it so elect; and hence the Rule is vicious and unnecessary.

Rule 69. Because plainly in violation of Article 36 of the Constitution, which allows any member to require the *ayes* and *nays* to be recorded, under certain limitations, and no Rule can deprive the individual of his Constitutional privilege and right.

Modifications.

We, moreover, recommend the rejection of Rule 37, because unfair in itself, and contrary also to the course usually pursued in legislative bodies.

We likewise recommend the following modifications of Rule 26: Omit the words "nor longer than an hour," and change the clause, "unless by unanimous consent," so that it read "unless by consent of the body."

With the exceptions and modifications or changes just specified, your committee unanimously recommend the adoption by the Synod of the Rules of Order adopted in 1884 by the General Synod in Baltimore, and that they be the Rules of Order of this Synod. Respectfully submitted,

W. M. DEATRICK, *Chairman.*

The following hours were fixed for the opening and closing of the sessions of Synod:

The morning sessions to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock; the afternoon sessions to begin at 2 and end at 4½ o'clock; and the evening business sessions to commence at 7 o'clock.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The President appointed the following Standing Committees, to wit:

Religious Services.—Revs. J. W. Knappenberger, G. W. Aughinbaugh, E. R. Deatrick, and Elders D. Biser and D. B. Seibert.

Minutes of Synod.—Revs. W. M. Deatrick, F. J. Sauerber, I. N. Peightel, and Elders C. A. Shultz and D. S. Firor.

Overtures.—Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, B. F. Bausmann, D. S. Dieffenbacher, and Elders S. Sprankle and P. W. Shafer.

Minutes of Classes.—Revs. E. N. Kremer, C. J. Musser, G. E. Addams, and Elders J. R. Witmor and J. Wetzel.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination.—Revs. E. R. Eschbach, G. W. Welker, J. O. Miller, and Elders J. Heyser and H. Wirt.

State of Religion and Statistics.—Revs. J. S. Kieffer, B. R. Carnahan, A. S. Weber, and Elders H. Omwake and H. W. Roller.

Education.—Revs. S. S. Miller, N. H. Skyles, S. L. Whitmore, and Elders S. Hoeflich and H. M. Cocklin.

Missions.—Revs. A. H. Kremer, J. C. Bowman, J. G. Noss, and Elders C. A. Shultz and J. H. Bauserman.

Publication.—Revs. S. N. Callender, A. H. Kremer, T. J. Barkley, and Elders S. Schwartz and J. H. Bowman.

Finance.—Revs. J. B. Shontz, M. H. Sangree, A. F. Dreisbach, and Elders J. P. Reed and M. Hess.

Nominations.—Rev. W. C. Cremer, J. O. Miller, C. Cort, and Elders J. Deisinger and J. Whitmore.

Ministerial Necrology.—Revs. C. U. Heilman, E. N. Kremer, T. F. Hoffmeier, and Elders J. Z. Hildebrand and D. Aurandt.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, Gettysburg, Carlisle, Juniata, San Francisco, and Portland-Oregon were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes for examination, except the Reports on the State of Religion and the Statistical Tables, which were referred to the Standing Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented, and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Annual Reports of the Board of Education, the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and the Treasurer's Report of the same institution were presented to Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education for further consideration.

4. The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, the Superintendent of Missions, the Treasurer of Home Missions and the Report of the Secretary of the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions were received, and severally referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for further notice.

5. The Annual Report of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church was laid before the Synod and read, after which it was referred to the Standing Committee on Publication for consideration.

6. The Annual Reports of the Board of Trustees of Synod and the Sunday-school Board were presented to the Synod, read and disposed of without reference. They will be found in their proper places.

7. A number of communications were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its sessions, observed the following religious services, to wit:

1. The sessions of each day were severally opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on religious services reported as follows, which was received and adopted, namely:

Your Committee on Religious Services begs leave to offer the following Report, making the following appointments for services:

REFORMED CHURCH.

Wednesday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. S. N. Callender. Liturgical Services by Revs. T. J. Barkley and G. E. Addams.

Thursday Evening.—Sunday-school Anniversary. Topic 1. How can Members of the Congregation Aid the Sunday-school? Speakers, Revs. A. T. G. Apple and F. J. Sauerber. Topic 2. The Discouragements and Encouragements of the Sunday-school Work. Speakers, Revs. I. N. Peightel and J. B. Shontz. Opening addresses limited to fifteen minutes and impromptu speeches to five minutes.

Friday Evening.—Educational Meeting. Topic 1. The Educational Policy of the Synod. Speakers, Revs. S. N. Callender and M. L. Firor. Topic 2. The Importance of Unity of Action in her Educational Work. Speakers, Revs. E. N. Kremer and C. J. Musser.

Saturday Afternoon.—Preparatory Services. Sermon by Rev. J. D. Miller. Liturgical Service by Revs. A. T. G. Apple and B. F. Bausmann.

Saturday Evening.—Home Missionary Meeting. Addresses by Revs. D. B. Shuey and A. C. Whitmer.

Sunday Morning.—Communion Services. Sermon by Rev. T. J. Barkley. Liturgical Service by Revs. A. K. Kline and H. Hilbush.

Sunday Afternoon.—Union Children's Meeting. Addresses by Revs. C. U. Heilman, E. R. Eschbach and G. W. Welker.

Sunday Evening.—Foreign Missionary Meeting. Addresses by Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, J. S. Kieffer and E. N. Kremer.

OTHER CHURCHES.

Presbyterian Church.—Sunday morning, sermon by Rev. J. S. Kieffer.

Lutheran Church.—Sunday morning, sermon by Rev. D. S. Dieffenbacher.

Methodist Church.—Sunday evening, sermon by Rev. A. F. Dreisbach.

Charlestown Methodist Church.—Sunday afternoon, sermon by Rev. J. H. Hartman.

United Brethren Church.—Sunday morning, sermon by Rev. S. L. Whitmore.

A. M. E. Church.—Sunday morning, sermon by Rev. C. U. Heilman. Sunday afternoon, sermon by Rev. A. K. Kline. And Sunday evening, sermon by Rev. H. Hilbush.

UPTON REFORMED CHURCH.

Saturday Afternoon.—Preparatory Services. Sermon by Rev. I. N. Peightel. Liturgical Services by Rev. C. J. Musser.

Saturday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. C. J. Musser. Liturgical Service by Rev. I. N. Peightel.

Sunday Morning.—Communion Services. Sermon by Rev. S. N. Callender. Liturgical Services by Rev. B. R. Carnahan.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. B. R. Carnahan.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. KNAPPENBERGER, *Chairman.*

The collection lifted on Saturday evening was given to the Abilene Church of Kansas; that of the Communion Services at Mercersburg and Upton to Home Missions; and that of Sunday evening to the education of the little Japanese girl, Kotomi, in Tokio, Japan. Pledges amounting to one hundred and five dollars additional were made for the same purpose.

The pastors of the Presbyterian and Lutheran congregations of Mercersburg closed their churches on Sunday evening and united with the Reformed congregation and the Synod in their evening's services.

ARTICLE VIII.
MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly before the Synod was dispensed with, and the printed "Acts and Proceedings" of the last annual sessions of the Synod were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report such items of business as properly claimed the consideration of the present meeting of the Synod. During the session of Wednesday afternoon this committee presented its report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, to whom were referred the printed Minutes of the Synod of last year for examination, after a careful inspection of them, begs leave to report the following items, as claiming the attention of the present sessions of the Synod, namely:

Item 1, page 5. The special committee to whom the Rules of Order adopted by the General Synod of Baltimore, had been referred for modification by the Synod of Hanover, two years ago, reported progress and was continued.

Item 2, page 6. The usual Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology was appointed, whose duty it will be to report to the present meeting of the Synod; of which committee the Rev. J. A. Hoffheins is chairman.

Item 3, page 13. Carlisle Classis was requested anew to comply with the wishes of the Synod to assume and pay its apportionment for Harbor Missions.

Item 4, page 13. The Classes delinquent in the payment of their apportionments for Concord and Roanoke Missions were earnestly directed to attend to their duty.

Item 5, page 13. The Mercersburg Classis was requested to reconsider its action revoking the licensure of John M. North.

Item 6, page 22. Friday evening of the present sessions was set apart for the discussion of the Synod's educational interests, and the Board of Education was directed to arrange a programme, &c.

Item 7, page 22. Apportionments are made to pay the amount pledged by the Synod for repairs to the property of Mercersburg College.

Item 8, page 24. The Treasurer of Synod is ordered to transmit to the Synod annually a statement of the Endowment Account of the Theological Professorship Fund.

Item 9, page 24. The Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., are requested to secure such changes in their charter as to make the members of the Boards of Visitors and Trustees belonging to the Synods of the Potomac and Pittsburgh eligible directly by these Synods, instead of being simply nominated, as at present.

Item 10, page 24. It becomes necessary to nominate for election by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States three members of the Board of Visitors and six members likewise of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, of Lancaster, Pa., for the term of one year.

Item 11, page 25. It becomes the duty of the Synod to fill by election the vacancies that will occur in the Board of Education, at the close of the present sessions of the Synod, of those whose terms of service expire.

Item 12, page 25. It will be necessary for the Synod to fill by election the vacancies that are about to occur in the Board of Regents of Mercersburg Col-

lege, of those members whose term of office will end during the present month.

Item 13, page 46. The Classes of Zion and Carlisle, still owing money to the Washington Mission Chapel Fund, are earnestly requested to pay it at once.

Item 14, page 47. Action authorizing the formation of a Classis in Japan.

Item 15, page 47. It becomes necessary to fill by election the vacancies that will occur in the Synodic Board of Missions of those whose terms of service expire during the present sessions of the Synod.

Item 16, page 49. Numerous arrearage on apportionments and assessments are noted.

Item 17, page 50. Apportionments are made for Home Missions.

Item 18, page 50. Assessments are made for Synod's Contingent Fund.

Item 19, page 50. A special committee is appointed to elaborate a plan for paying funds into the Treasury of Synod, with instructions to report to this Synod.

Item 20, page 50. It will be necessary to elect a member of Synod's Board of Trustees to fill the place of Elder J. T. Motter, whose term of office will expire on the 1st of next January, agreeably to the Charter.

Item 21, page 52. Synod designates the last Sunday in last month as a suitable time for a *Children's Day*, recommends all the services of the day to be for the special benefit of the children, and orders that all the collections lifted on that day be devoted to strictly benevolent purposes.

Item 22, page 52. It will be necessary to fill by election the vacancy in the Sunday-school Board, which will take place at the present sessions of the Synod.

Item 23, page 56. It will be necessary to fill the vacancy about to take place in the Reformed Church Publication Board, by the expiration of the term of service of Elder Henry Wirt.

Item 24, page 56. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last annual meeting of the Synod published.

Item 25, page 62. A copy of the proceedings in reference to the bi-centennial of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, as observed by the Synod, was ordered to be officially communicated to the Rev. Dr. Pressensé, of Paris, with the request that he lay them before the Synodical authorities of the Reformed Church of France.

Item 26, page 62. The Stated Clerk was instructed to furnish the Secretary of the Presbyterian Sabbath Observance Committee of Pennsylvania with the action of the Synod taken on that subject.

Item 27, page 62. A special committee was appointed for the purpose of correspondence with said Committee of the Presbyterian Church, and to send a representation of at least two of its members to a proposed meeting to be held last May, in Harrisburg, Pa.

Item 28, page 63. A special committee was appointed to report a plan, if possible, to the present meeting of the Synod, whereby superannuated and disabled ministers may be furnished with a sufficiency to live, if in need, as a reward of a life devoted to the Master's service, and not as a mere charity.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. M. DEATRICK, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article IV., Rules of Order; on item 2, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology; item 3, the Carlisle Classis attended to the request; on items 4, 7, 8, 12, 16, 18 and 19, see Article XV., Finance; items 5 and 14 were referred to the next annual

meeting; on items 6 and 10, see Article XIII., Education; the request contained in item 9 was reiterated; items 11, 12, 15, 20, 22 and 23 were severally referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations, to make the required nominations; on item 21, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on item 24, see Article XX., Publication; and on items 25 and 28, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures presented its report at intervals, which was received and acted on item by item, subsequently adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The Committee on Overtures begs leave to report the following papers as claiming the attention of the Synod:

Item 1. A copy of a book entitled *The Lord's Portion*, written by the Rev. Henry Harbaugh, D.D., at the request of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, and first published in 1858, and recently republished by Mr. Daniel Miller, of Reading, Pa., which the publisher presents to the Synod with his compliments.

The thanks of the Synod were returned to the publisher for the copy presented, the work commended to our pastors and people for general circulation, and the book ordered to be placed in the library of Mercersburg College.

Item 2. A communication from Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, President of The Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows of the Reformed Church in the United States, setting forth the nature and needs of the Society, together with a number of copies of the Charter, Enabling Act, and By-Laws of said Society.

The communication was read, and the following action adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the special attention of the several Classes be called to the claims of this Society, and that they be requested to instruct all their pastors to lift one collection a year at least, in each of their congregations, on some Sunday before October in each Synodical year.

Item 3. A copy of "College Recollections," with the compliments of the author, Rev. Theodore Appel, D.D.

The thanks of the Synod were returned to the author for the copy sent, the work was commended to the friends of education, and the book ordered to be placed in the library of Mercersburg College.

Item 4. A statement of the workings, condition and needs of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa.

For action on the item, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

Item 5. A copy of the Boquet and Brown Memorial Volume, presented in behalf of the memorial committee of Franklin and Westmoreland Counties, Pa.

The thanks of Synod were returned to the donors, and the volume was ordered to be placed in the library of Mercersburg College.

Item 6. A letter from Rev. P. S. Davis, D.D., Editor-in-Chief of "THE MESSENGER," requesting the election of a commission to consider and act on his resignation, in case he deemed it necessary to offer it.

For action on this item, see Article XX., Publication.

Item 7. A Complaint of Rev. A. J. Olinger and others against the Proceedings of the Portland-Oregon Classis, together with two other papers, touching the same matter.

Item 8. A letter from Rev. J. Gantenbein, D.D., touching the educational interests of Portland-Oregon Classis.

For action on items 7 and 8, see Article XVII., Complaints.

Item 9. A paper on the part of the Alumni Association of Franklin and Marshall College, touching the celebration of the Centennial and Semi-Centennial of said institution, during the present College year.

For action on this item, see Article XIII., Education.

Item 10. An official communication from the Stated Clerk of the Pittsburgh Synod, informing this Synod of said Synod's action touching the publication interests of the Tri-Synodic compact.

For action on this item, see Article XX., Publication.

Item 11. An overture from Mr. John Kunrath, of Portland, Oregon, to donate to this Synod a certain property for the use of a Mission House.

For action on this item, see Article XIII., Education.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. HOFFHEINS, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES

The Standing Committee on the Minutes of the Classes presented its report, during the session of Saturday forenoon, which was disposed of item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF CLASSES.]

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on the Minutes of Classes respectfully report. There have been placed in our hands the Minutes of all the Classes for the past year. From them the following items are obtained :

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. Mercersburg Classis failed to adopt the Minutes of a special meeting held at Mercersburg April 8, 1886.
2. San Francisco Classis failed to open its annual meeting with a sermon and prayer, as required by the Constitution, and failed to adopt its Minutes.
3. The same Classis received Revs. C. M. Schaaf from the Eastern Ohio Classis and T. G. De Lyre from the Portland-Oregon Classis, without first having a quorum.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. San Francisco Classis requests the Synod to excuse its irregularity, as reported in Item 3.
5. Maryland Classis overtures the Synod to co-operate in the missionary work in Baltimore City.
6. Juniata Classis overtures the Synod to order that all funds that shall be contributed to the Board of Home Missions for church extension or church building purposes be loaned, not given, to the congregations thus aided, and be secured by first mortgage.
7. The same Classis overtures the Synod to devise a plan for the creation of a Board of Church Building and for the collection of funds for the same.

8. Zion's Classis requests the Synod to excuse it from the payment of more than sixty dollars of the one hundred and fifteen dollars assessed upon it for the Contingent Fund.

9. The same Classis asks the Synod to excuse it from the payment of its arrearage for Washington Mission Chapel.

10. North Carolina Classis asks to be excused from paying its assessment for Mercersburg College in 1883.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

11. The Stated Clerk of Mercersburg Classis appeals from a decision of the President of said Classis to Synod.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO THE CLASSES.

12. *Arrearages.*—All the Classes in arrears on assessments took favorable action on their arrearages, except Zion's and North Carolina Classes. Carlisle Classis directs its treasurer to call the attention of Synod to a discrepancy in its arrearage account.

13. All the Classes took favorable action on the several amounts apportioned upon them for repairs to Mercersburg College.

14. The Classes of Maryland, Juniata, Mercersburg, Virginia, Gettysburg, Zion's and San Francisco took favorable action as it regards the increase of students for the ministry.

15. The apportionments for Home Missions and assessment for the Contingent Fund were accepted and favorably acted upon by all the Classes, except Zion's Classis, which assumed only sixty dollars for its assessment for Contingent Fund.

16. The Classes took favorable action on Foreign Missions, Children's Day and Orphans' Homes.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED AND DISMISSED.

17. Zion's Classis received the licentiate Phaon W. Snyder from the Lehigh Classis and ordained him to the ministry.

18. Maryland Classis licensed J. Nevin Bauman and John F. Mackley, and dismissed the former to the Westmoreland Classis and the latter to the Clarion Classis; received the licentiate David A. Souders from the Schuylkill Classis and ordained him; received Rev. U. Henry Heilman from the Carlisle Classis, and dismissed Rev. George H. Martin, D.D., to the Virginia Classis.

19. Mercersburg Classis received Rev. Morris Z. Hittel from the Tiffin Classis, and dismissed Rev. William H. Herbert to the Gettysburg Classis.

20. Virginia Classis licensed James W. Myers; received Rev. G. H. Martin, D.D., from the Maryland Classis, and Rev. Christian Gumbert from the Somerset Classis; and dismissed Rev. Elias Welty, M.D., to the Maryland Classis.

21. North Carolina Classis licensed and ordained Lewis Reiter and Joseph L. Murphy.

22. Gettysburg Classis received the licentiate, John J. Stauffer, from the Lehigh Classis and ordained him; received Rev. Francis S. Lindaman from the Carlisle Classis and Rev. Wm. H. Herbert from the Mercersburg Classis; and dismissed Rev. Joshua H. Derr to East Susquehanna Classis, and Rev. John Kretzing to the East Pennsylvania Classis.

23. Carlisle Classis licensed James W. Menninger and dismissed him to the Philadelphia Classis; received Rev. Solomon B. Schafer from the Lancaster Classis of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, and Rev. William I. Stewart from the Juniata Classis; and dismissed Rev. U. Henry Heilman to the Maryland Classis, Rev. James R. Lewis to the Kansas Classis, and Rev. Francis S. Lindaman to the Gettysburg Classis.

24. Juniata Classis dismissed Rev. Neri F. Peters to the Lehigh Classis, and Rev. William I. Stewart to the Carlisle Classis.

25. San Francisco Classis received Rev. Charles M. Schaaf from Eastern Ohio Classis, and Rev. Theodore G. De Lyre from the Portland-Oregon Classis; dismissed Revs. Conrad F. Waldecker and Eugene De Gelfer to the Presbyterian Church, and erased the name of Rev. Charles Hartman from its roll of members.

26. Portland-Oregon Classis received Rev. Theodore G. De Lyre and A. J. Olinger from the Lancaster Classis of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States; and dismissed Rev. Frederick Ewald to the Synod of America.

VI. PLACES AND TIMES OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

27. Zion's Classis will meet in Kreutz Creek Church, York County, Pa., May 13, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. R. Rahauer, *President*; Rev. F. J. Sauerber, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder C. A. Shultz, *Treasurer*.

28. Maryland Classis will meet in the Glade Church, Frederick County, Md., May 20, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. C. Clever, *President*, and Rev. S. S. Miller, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

29. Mercersburg Classis will meet in Loudon, Franklin County, Pa., April 27, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. J. B. Shontz, *President*, and Rev. W. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

30. Virginia Classis will meet in Mount Crawford, Rockingham County, Va., May 4, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. B. F. Bausmann, *President*; Rev. B. R. Carnahan, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, *Treasurer*.

31. North Carolina Classis will meet in Concord, Cabarras County, N. C., May 4, A.D. 1887, at 11 o'clock, A.M. Rev. J. C. Clapp, *President*; Rev. G. W. Welker, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. T. Long, *Treasurer*.

32. Gettysburg Classis will meet in Gettysburg, Adams County, Pa., May 19, A.D. 1887, at 8 o'clock, P.M. Rev. T. J. Barkley, *President*; Rev. W. K. Zieber, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

33. Carlisle Classis will meet in Zion's Reformed Church, near Newburg, Cumberland County, Pa., April 28, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. G. E. Addams, *President* and *Treasurer*, and Rev. J. M. Mickly, *Stated Clerk*.

34. Juniata Classis will meet in Huntingdon, Huntingdon County, Pa., May 19, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. I. N. Peightel, *President*; Rev. J. D. Miller, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. F. A. Rupley, *Treasurer*.

35. San Francisco Classis will meet in Napa City, Napa County, Cal., June 3, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. C. M. Schaaf, *President*; Rev. S. Fuendeling, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder F. Joost, *Treasurer*.

36. Portland-Oregon Classis will meet in Mink, Clackamas County, Oregon, June 2, A.D. 1887, at 7.30 o'clock, P.M. Rev. J. Lange, *President*; Rev. G. Graedel, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder B. Acker, *Treasurer*.

Respectfully submitted, ELLIS N. KREMER, *Chairman*.

Items 1, 2, 3 and 13 to 36, inclusive, were severally adopted. The request in item 4 was granted and the Classis was excused under the circumstances. Item 5 was referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for consideration. Items 6 and 7 were referred to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions. The requests contained in items 8 and 9 were refused, and the Synod earnestly enjoined upon the Classis to attend to its duty and pay the full amounts. The request in item 10 was granted and the Classis excused from the payment of the twenty dollars. For action on item 11 see Article XVI., Appeals; and for action on item 12 see Article XV., Finance.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE AND ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination reported as follows, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Committee on Examination, etc., would report that no applicants for examination were referred to us.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports presented its report to the Synod, during the session of Monday evening, which was received and adopted, and is as follows, to wit:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION AND MORALS.

Your Committee on the State of Religion and Morals would respectfully present the following Report: From the reports of the several Classes on this subject, referred to your committee, it is apparent that the past year has been, within the bounds of this Synod, one of earnest and faithful pastoral labor. We need to be thankful, first of all, for the opportunity of rendering this service; for the circumstance that, during the past year, the pastors of the Synod have been enabled, almost without exception, to perform their accustomed work. But one brother was called away from the ranks of the ministry by death; in two cases ministers are reported as temporarily disqualified for service. The vast amount of labor that has been performed will, through the blessing of God, it is reasonable to suppose, produce corresponding results. We base our confident expectation of this upon the word of Him who has declared that His word shall not return unto Him void, and that our labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Of the activity brought to view in the reports submitted to our consideration, it is characteristic that they relate to what is regular and ordinary in the work of the ministers and the life of the congregation. We have not discerned anything unusual in any one of these reports. They all of them move in the sphere of the accustomed, the usual, the ordinary. All of them speak, all of them have much to say, of the preaching of the word, of the administration of the sacraments, of the instruction of the young in the catechetical class and in the Sunday-school, of pastoral visitation. These reports, indeed, are one very much the same as another; naturally and necessarily so, because they are the accounts of a work that is always and everywhere substantially the same. We may very probably regard this prevalence of the ordinary and the usual as being a sign of the sound and healthy condition of the religious life and activity within our bounds; as we may accept it also as an indication of the continued confidence of our ministry and people in those regular means of grace which have been divinely appointed and established for the spiritual welfare and salvation of men.

The accounts we have received are, prevailingly, of a hopeful and encouraging spirit. They tell of growth, advancement, progress; of increased attendance upon the services of God's house; of greater efficiency in Sunday-school work; of more interest in the cause of missions; of greater liberality towards the institutions of the Church. Special mention is made, in some of the reports, of the establishment of missionary societies; of the holding of missionary, Sunday-school and educational convocations; of special efforts in behalf of the educational interests of the Church. It appears that the relation between the pastors and their flocks is generally peaceful and harmonious. No

strife exists within our borders. No energy is wasted in controversy and conflict. Comparing the state of the church, in this respect, with that which existed but a few years ago, we seem to be upon the eve, or in the midst, of a period in our history most favorable to religious activity and to spiritual development and growth.

Many deficiencies still remain to be made good; there are many dangers against which we need to be on our guard. Mention is made of the existence of a spirit of inattention, indifference and coldness on the part of many of the members of the Church. There are many who are irregular in the matter of attendance upon the services of the house of God. Some manifest a spirit of narrowness and illiberality. It is found that the practice of gathering together the children of the church for the purpose of instructing them in the catechism is far from being universal, and that many difficulties are in the way of making it so. We have much to learn, and much to correct. We need to be mindful of these defects and diligently guard against these dangers. It is evident that there exists among us such an amount of imperfection and evil and irreligion as ought to give us no small degree of anxiety and concern. There is much indeed to encourage us and render us hopeful; but nothing to elate us. There is nothing to depress us indeed; but a great deal to make us humble.

Within the past year more than one faithful Elder has ceased from his labors upon earth and gone to his everlasting reward in heaven. Only one minister, however, has, as we have said, been summoned away by death; namely, the Rev. A. J. Bowers, of the Virginia Classis. Perhaps, outside of the Virginia Classis, there are comparatively few members of this Synod who were well acquainted with this brother; it was seldom that he was permitted to attend a meeting of the Synod. There are some who remember him affectionately as a fellow-student in the Theological Seminary. He was our brother and our faithful fellow-laborer in the vineyard of the Lord. We mention here, with affectionate regret, his comparatively early death; we would place on record here our grateful appreciation of his faithful and devoted services as a minister of Christ. Respectfully submitted,

J. S. KIEFFER, *Chairman.*

(For the Statistical Tables, see Appendix).

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented its annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education for consideration. The report is as follows, to wit:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomae:

Your Board of Education begs leave to submit the following annual report for the fiscal or Synodical year just closed:

At the conclusion of the last annual meeting of the Synod at Chambersburg, the Board met and organized by the election of the Rev. William Goodrich as *President*, Rev. J. W. Knappenberger as *Secretary*, and Rev. William M. Deatrick as *Treasurer* of the Board.

The operations of the Board have been carried forward successfully during the year just ended. Four of our beneficiary students, namely, J. Nevin Bauman, John F. Mackley, James W. Myers and Milton H. Mill, graduated from the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., last May and have been duly licensed to preach the gospel. Three of them, Messrs. Bauman, Mackley and

Mill, have been ordained to the work of the holy ministry and are now serving pastoral charges, the first two named in the bounds of the Pittsburgh Synod, and the last in the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Sixteen young men were assisted in their studies during the past year with funds furnished them by the Board. Four of them, as already stated, have completed the curriculum of their studies and graduated from the Seminary. Mr. Thaddeus M. Biser, a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, entered the Theological Seminary early last winter, but soon afterwards felt himself necessitated to withdraw, on account of ill health, having received only a small amount of funds from the Treasury of the Board. Another beneficiary student, L. R. Swartz, having taken a wife contrary to the rules of the Board and good order, the Carlisle Classis, under whose fostering care he was, declined to furnish him with any more beneficiary aid, at least for the present, as a beneficiary student, and his name was accordingly dropped by the Board from its list of beneficiary students.

At present, the following young men are receiving beneficiary aid and are pursuing their studies either in Mercersburg College or at Lancaster, Pa., namely: Francis M. Line, Daniel G. Hetrick, James B. Stonesifer, Homer S. May, David M. Wolfe, J. Philip Harner, Lewis T. Lampe, Atwill Conner, Jr., George C. Erb and George S. Gill—ten in number—the three named last having been received only recently. It will be noticed that the number is two less than at our last annual report to the Synod. This is to be deeply deplored, and the attention of the Synod is called to the fact.

The Board is also sorry to be compelled to report that the amount contributed for Beneficiary Education, during the last fiscal year, is less than the previous year. Deducting the amount in the Treasury at the beginning of the year and the interest received on legacies, \$184.74, the sum of \$1242.71 remains as the actual contributions from the congregations of the Synod, an average of \$4.31 per congregation, or not quite four and a half cents per member. But as a number of the Classes did nothing for the cause, or failed at least to operate through the Board, we have not quite eight cents as the average per member for the Classes contributing.

The Treasurer thankfully acknowledges the receipt of the following moneys for this arm of church work, since our last annual report, omitting the dates of payment into the treasury, to wit:

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Maryland Classis.

Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick \$153.07, Third Reformed Church of Baltimore \$76.00, First Reformed Church of Baltimore \$63.00, First Reformed Church of Hagerstown \$50.89, Silver Run Charge \$50.00, Westminster Charge \$40.00, St. Paul's (English) Reformed Church of Baltimore \$38.00, Manchester Charge \$37.36, Manor Charge \$30.00, Taneytown Charge \$30.00, Clear Spring Charge \$30.00, Cavetown Charge \$25.00, Mechanicstown Charge \$25.00, Glade Charge \$18.00, Mount Pleasant Charge \$14.00, Mount Moriah Charge \$12.96, Middletown Church \$12.50, Jefferson Charge \$10.00, Boonsboro' Charge \$10.00, and Grace Mission of Washington, D. C., \$5.00. Making \$730.51.

Juniata Classis.

Altoona Church \$58.00, Waterstreet Charge \$50.00, St. Clairsville Charge \$30.00, Yellow Creek Charge \$30.00, Friend's Cave Charge \$25.00, Bedford Church \$20.00, Huntingdon Charge \$20.00, Everett Charge \$15.00, Sulphur Spring Charge \$10.00, Dunning's Creek Charge \$10.00, Greenfield Charge \$8.00, Clear Ridge Charge \$5.00, Orbisonia Charge \$5.00, and interest on Nicholas Gruber legacy \$112.74. Making \$398.74.

Virginia Classis.

Per Treasurer of Classis \$110.00, and interest on Absalom Rinker legacy \$60.00. Making \$170.00.

Carlisle Classis.

Newburg Church \$30.00, Mechanicsburg Charge \$21.50, New Bloomfield Charge \$20.00, Landisburg Charge \$18.70, Duncannon Charge \$12.00, Elder Jacob Wetzel \$5.00, Rev. Dr. Glessner \$5.00, and Elder John Shambaugh \$3.00. Making \$115.20.

Mercersburg Classis.

McConnellsburg Charge \$1.00, and interest on Jacob Stoudenour legacy \$12.00. Making \$13.

RECAPITULATION.

Summary of Receipts.

Balance in Treasury, at last report, October 19, 1885.	\$759.49
Received from the Maryland Classis.	730.51
" " Juniata "	398.74
" " Virginia "	170.00
" " Carlisle "	115.20
" " Mercersburg "	13.00

Total receipts \$2,186.94

Summary of Payments.

Paid to beneficiary students of Maryland Classis	\$775.00
" " Juniata "	450.00
" " Virginia "	250.00
" " Carlisle "	112.50
Paid to beneficiary student M. H. Mill.	50.00
Postage and stationery.	1.70

Total payments. \$1,639.20
Balance in Treasury, October 4, 1886 547.74

\$2,186.94

Respectfully submitted by

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We do hereby certify that we have carefully audited the account of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing synopsis of the Treasurer's Report, with the Recapitulation of Summaries of Receipts and Payments, is a true and faithful statement of the same. We accordingly find the balance in the Treasury at this time to be \$547.74.

J. S. KIEFFER, }
J. HEYSER, } Committee.

Mercersburg, Pa., Oct. 5, 1886.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College presented their annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College beg leave to lay before the Synod, for consideration, the following annual report, to wit:

The Board, at a meeting held in Chambersburg, in connection with the meeting of the Synod last October, organized by the re-election of the officers of the previous year, namely, the undersigned as *President*, Rev. A. J. Heller as *Secretary*, and E. J. Bonbrike, Esq., as *Treasurer*. The Executive Committee of the Board consists of the officers *ex-officio*, together with Rev. W. Goodrich and Elder A. R. Schnebly.

At the same meeting of the Board, action was taken to carry into execution the expressed wishes of the Synod and the Alumni and friends of the College, given at the last meeting of the Synod, to make the much needed repairs to the property, by appointing the President and Treasurer of the Board together with Elder A. R. Schnebly a committee to have the work of repairing done, as thoroughly as the funds furnished would allow.

Owing, however, to the lateness of the season and the lack of the funds promised, no general repairing was undertaken until spring, since which time the repairs have been going forward. Iron roofing has been placed on a portion of the Seminary or College Building, and the remainder of the roof carefully repaired, so that it is now in much better condition than for years past. The exterior wood-work of said building and of the two adjacent Professor Houses has been repainted, requiring nearly one-half ton of white lead and occupying more than one hundred and twenty days' labor, including what painting was done in the interior of the College, so that they present a very greatly improved appearance, when compared with one year ago, as can be readily noticed. The plastering of the ceiling over the portico, which was in a very dilapidated and unsightly condition, was all taken off, and in place of it, regular ceiling stripping was used, which has been painted, so that the portico ceiling is now in better condition than it ever has been. Quite a number of new window sash were made to take the places of old ones that had become unfit for further use. The windows of the Seminary or College Building were all overhauled and glass and new sash cords put in where found necessary. Numerous other repairs have been made, which it is not deemed necessary to particularize, as the generally improved appearance of the Synod's property will indicate.

In order to make these repairs and others still further contemplated, the following funds have been furnished to your Board by the Synod and Alumni and other friends of the College on pledges given at the Synod of Chambersburg last October, namely:

<i>Pledges redeemed in full.</i>		
Synod of the Potomac		\$500 00
Mercersburg congregation		50 00
Rev. C. W. Summey		50 00
Rev. M. L. Firor		50 00
Rev. E. S. Hassler		50 00
Rev. I. N. Peightel		50 00
Rev. E. R. Dearick		25 00
William J. Zacharias, Esq.		10 00
Elder John M. Nicely		10 00
Mr. Robert M. Gillan		5 00
Elder Jacob Heyser		5 00
Rev. J. B. Shontz		5 00
Mr. A. K. Dice		5 00
<i>Pledge paid in part.</i>		
Rev. S. L. Whitmore		30 00
<hr/>		
Making		\$845 00

Three Alumni, whose pledges aggregate one hundred dollars, have thus far failed to redeem them or any part of them. By the next meeting of the Synod it is hoped all will be paid and the repairs completed, so that an itemized statement can be rendered to the Synod. Including the unredeemed pledges the Board will have upwards of three hundred dollars to make repairs still badly needed. The exact amount pledged last October was \$965.00

Last December, the fire insurance on the different buildings was about to run out, and it became necessary to renew the policies. This was done, and a policy covering twenty thousand dollars was taken out for the term of five years, at an expense of nearly two hundred dollars, which could not now be secured for less than nearly double the amount paid, the insurance rates in the county in the meantime having greatly advanced.

The question is sometimes asked, What is the present indebtedness of the College? After careful examination, we reply, Between ten and eleven thousand dollars, including accumulated interest on all unpaid claims.

The Board thankfully acknowledges the receipt of three hundred dollars from the Synod towards meeting interest as promised by the Synod at Waynesboro in 1881, thus fulfilling Synod's pledge, given at that time.

The Synod's consideration is respectfully called to certain action taken by an Educational Convention, held in this church on Wednesday, September 8, 1886, which is herewith incorporated,

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that Mercersburg College be continued.

Resolved, That in order to reach this end and accomplish the great work lying before it, a fund of at least sixty thousand dollars should be raised to meet present wants and begin a moderate endowment.

Resolved, That as soon as forty thousand dollars of said fund shall have been subscribed, *bona fide*, the subscriptions taken shall become binding; and the Board of Regents should proceed to reorganize the working powers of the college, on a basis, however, which shall forever prevent the accumulation of debt, in accordance with the direction of the Synod of the Potomac.

Resolved, That, only as funds and resources shall permit, additional teaching force shall be added to the Faculty.

Resolved, That Mercersburg College, through its Board of Regents, should be under the supervision and patronage of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church, and that said Synod is hereby overruled to take favorable action towards making this institution her very own, without antagonizing any other existing interests.

Resolved, That the citizens of Mercersburg and vicinity, more immediately receiving the benefits of the institution, should be expected to pledge and secure one-fifth of the sum to be raised.

Respectfully submitted by order of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College.
W. M. DEATRICK, *President.*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

DEAR BRETHREN: The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary, favored by the good providence of God, and thankful to Him for the continuance of His favor resting on our School of the Prophets, presents to your honorable body the following as their annual report:

At the opening of the Seminary year, in September, 1885, the following young men were admitted to the Junior Class: T. McCauley Biser, Daniel S. Kurtz, Stewart A. Mitman, John F. Moyer, Aaron Noll, S. Charles Stover,

Charles B. Schneder, J. Stewart Hartman of Pennsylvania College, and Ernest Wagner of Muhlenberg College.

Mr. John M. Kessler, Esq., graduate of Mercersburg College and a lawyer by profession, was allowed to pursue an elective course of study, mostly in the senior class. Mr. Richard C. Schiedt, a graduate of the University of Berlin, and Mr. Max Puhl, a graduate of the Teachers' Seminary at Berlin, Prussia, were admitted to the Middle Class. The whole number of students added to the Seminary during the year was twelve.

The following students, members of the Senior Class, having sustained a satisfactory examination in the presence of the Board of Visitors, received the usual testimonial at the anniversary of the Seminary in May last: J. Nevin Bauman, Robert E. Crum, John F. Mackley, Maurice M. Mauch, Milton M. Mill, Rufus W. Miller, Wilson F. More, James W. Myers, Gustave A. Schwedes and David A. Souders—ten in all. They were dismissed to their respective Classes and are now engaged in the active duties of the ministry.

The Middle Class, with two additions, numbered seven students. The whole number of students connected with the Seminary during the year was twenty-seven, exclusive of one resident graduate.

Mr. Felix Baum, whose name does not appear among the juniors mentioned above, supposed to be a sincere convert from the Roman Catholic Church, after having been carefully examined by one of the Classes and recommended to the Board of Visitors as a suitable person to study for the ministry in our Church, and to receive its assistance during his studies, was a member of the Junior Class for a while, but he soon showed that he was unsettled in his mind, and returned again to the Catholic Church. The Faculty were painfully impressed with his duplicity, and ascertained to their great sorrow and regret that he was entirely unworthy of their confidence. He not having sustained his probation, his name was stricken from the roll of students.

We are also sorry that we are compelled to report that a member of the Middle Class was found guilty of a grievous sin, and that the faculty were under the necessity of excluding him from the Seminary. When confronted with the evidence of his guilt he evinced deep contrition and great distress of mind. It is believed that his repentance is sincere and that by the grace of God he may yet become useful in the Church.

With these two exceptions, the moral tone of the institution has been about as good as usual. The students have passed the prescribed course of studies with diligence, and the majority of them with a gratifying degree of success. But the exceptions referred to teach a lesson to all of us alike. Great care should be exercised in encouraging young men to look forward to the ministry. They should serve as a monition from God to those of us who have charge of the Seminary to guard with sacred jealousy the purity and honor of the institution, and to the students as an incentive to greater watchfulness and prayer, to greater abstraction from the world, and to a higher grade of piety, so that their minds may be more steadily fixed upon their high and holy calling, and be kept free from entangling alliances with the world.

The students addressed two petitions to the Board through the Faculty, the one asking for a teacher of elocution and the other for a new building for the exclusive use of the Seminary, for the library, lecture-rooms and so forth. It is believed that arrangements can be made with the college authorities whereby the students shall hereafter enjoy the advantages of a more careful training for public speaking. The importance of a suitable building for the use of the Seminary has long been felt, and the Board earnestly recommends to the respective Synods to devise measures by which this object may be secured at no distant day. It will tend to promote the best interests of the institution in more ways than one, and aid the professors in the discharge of their sacred duties.

It may be proper to add that at the opening of the Seminary at the beginning of September last there was an unusually large accession of new students to the Junior Class. The number of students now in attendance is therefore larger than it has been for many years past.

Respectfully submitted,
THEODORE APPEL, *Secretary.*

Lancaster, September 27, 1886.

II. TREASURER'S REPORT.

Report of John B. Roth, Treasurer of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Endowment Fund.

Amount of Endowment Fund, October 1, 1885,	\$68,224 76
October 1, 1886, Less note returned by order of Board	500 00
	<hr/>
	\$67,724 76

Dr.

For Balance due Seminary October 1, 1885,	\$521 26
For sundry interest and incomes October 1, 1886,	5083 58
Aid Fund to October 1, 1886,	<hr/>
	\$5604 84

Cr.

By Sundry accounts paid to October 1, 1886,	\$4815 15
	<hr/>

October 1, 1886, Balance due Seminary	\$789 69
	<hr/>

Library Fund.

October 1, 1886, Amount of Principal	\$2069 96
	<hr/>

Dr.

For Sundry Interest received to October 1, 1886,	\$90 65
	<hr/>

Cr.

By Balance due Treasurer October 1, 1885,	\$4 71
By Sundry Bills paid to October 1, 1886,	111 13
	<hr/>

\$115 84

Dr. Brought down	90 65
	<hr/>

October 1, 1886, Due Treasurer	\$25 19
	<hr/>

Smaltz Fund.

October 1, 1886, Amount of Principal	\$5000 00
	<hr/>

Dr.

For Interest received to October 1, 1886,	\$275 00
	<hr/>

Cr.

By amount paid Rev. Charles G. Fisher, Treasurer of Board of Education	\$275 00
	<hr/>

Building Fund.

October 1, 1886, Amount of Fund is	\$12,883 05
	<hr/>

Pittsburgh Professorship Fund.

October 1, 1886, Pittsburgh Professorship Fund is	\$1718 30
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The interest from Building Fund and Pittsburgh Professorship Fund is used by Treasurer as per orders of the Seminary Board for current expense account of Seminary and included in his annual report.

LANCASTER, October 1, 1886.

JOHN B. ROTH, *Treasurer.*

The undersigned auditing committee having examined the accounts of the Treasurer and compared his vouchers find the same correct.

October 1, 1886.

ISAAC H. KEEFER, }
C. A. SCHULTZ. } *Auditors.*

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom the foregoing reports had been referred, reported during the session of Monday forenoon, which was received, considered item by item, amended, adopted as a whole and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Committee on Education respectfully offer the following report. The following papers have been referred to your committee, to wit: A letter from Rev. D. B. Shuey, Superintendent of Missions in Kansas, the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and the Synopsis of the Report of the Treasurer of the same, the Report of the Board of Education of this Synod and the Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College.

1. From the letter of Rev. D. B. Shuey, your committee learn that the citizens of Wichita, Kansas, make the following proposition in reference to the establishment of a college at that place, for and under the care of the Reformed Church in the United States, viz.: that they, the citizens of Wichita, will give twenty acres of land on College Hill, clear of all incumbrances, and twenty-five thousand dollars in money for the erection of a college building—giving a guaranteed bond that they will do as they promise: provided the Reformed Church in the United States will raise fifteen thousand dollars to the endowment of the Presidency of said college; this proposition to be accepted on or before October 23, 1886.

Of the fifteen thousand dollars asked, three thousand dollars have been already pledged. There remains to be raised twelve thousand dollars. In view of the above recited facts, your committee recommend that, WHEREAS, Four Thousand Dollars are asked of this Synod, provided three thousand dollars be raised by the Pittsburgh Synod and five thousand dollars by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Synod accepts the proposition of the citizens of Wichita, Kansas.

Resolved, That this Synod instructs its Treasurer to pay to the proper person or persons to receive it, on or before April 1, 1887, the sum of Four Thousand Dollars towards the endowment of Wichita College.

Resolved, That the Synod authorize its Treasurer to borrow the sum of Four Thousand Dollars for the purpose of meeting the Synod's pledge to Wichita College, and that a requisite number of the members of the Synod give their indorsement as security for the same.

Resolved, further, That Revs. A. S. Weber, C. U. Heilman, M. H. Sangree,

J. O. Miller, C. Cort, A. H. Kremer and B. R. Carnahan be a committee to apportion the sum pledged to Wichita College among the Classes of Maryland, Juniata, Gettysburg, Zion's, Mercersburg, Virginia and Carlisle, and that said committee, with the co-operation of the different pastors of their respective Classes, make prompt and energetic efforts to raise the amounts apportioned as soon as possible.

2. From the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and from the Treasurer's Report of the same, the committee gathers the following: That twenty-eight students have been connected with the Seminary, during the past year; that ten of them have completed the course of study and been licensed, and all but one are now in the active duties of the ministry; that at the late opening of the Seminary there was an unusually large accession of new students, numbering in all seventeen. The Board calls the attention of this Synod to the importance of a suitable building for the use of the Seminary, and recommends to this Synod to continue to devise means by which this object may be secured. From the Report of the Treasurer we find, that the income of the Board for the present year has been \$5,604.84, and the expenditures \$4815.15, leaving a balance in favor of the Seminary of \$789.69; and further, that none of the amount apportioned by this Synod to the different Classes for the use of the Seminary has been received during the past year.

On this subject your committee recommend the following action:

Resolved, That this Synod rejoices in the growing prosperity and influence of the Theological Seminary; that it challenges our continued support; that it deserves our hearty sympathy, and shall receive our fostering care.

Resolved, That this Synod does not see its way clear to commend to its congregations and people the project of erecting a suitable building for the Theological Seminary, on account of pressing claims upon it now.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Synod, that the Trustees of the Theological Seminary should rent for the present a suitable building for their use, with the interest of their Building Fund.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of Synod be directed to pay over to the Treasurer of the Seminary the amount in the Treasury received on apportionment from the Classes for the use of the Seminary.

3. From the Report of the Board of Education of this Synod your committee find, that the work of the Board has been carried forward, during the past year, with reasonable success; further, that four students having completed the prescribed course, have by their respective Classes been qualified for the active duties of the ministry. At this time there are ten young men under the care of the Board, who are pursuing their studies either at Mercersburg or Lancaster. The receipts of the Board for the past year have been \$2186.94, and expenditures \$1639.20, leaving to the credit of the Board \$547.74. Your Committee suggest the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Synod renewedly urge upon her pastors, and through them upon her people, the growing necessity of more earnestly seeking out worthy young men, who may be prepared for the Gospel ministry, that the depleted ranks of the same be filled up, and the waste places of our beloved Zion be made to rejoice, and also that the cause of Beneficiary Education be warmly commended to the prayers and liberality of the membership of the Church.

4. From the Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, your Committee find, that the work of the College has prospered during the past year, and that the College property has been very much improved by the judicious use of the moneys put into the hands of the Board by the Synod and Alumni in making extensive and much needed repairs, so that the property

will be, when all the money for that purpose is expended, in better condition than for years past; that ample insurance has been placed upon the buildings, and that the indebtedness of the College is between ten and eleven thousand dollars. The Synod's attention is called by the Board to the action of an Educational Convention held at Mercersburg, Pa., September 8, 1886, having reference to the continuance of Mercersburg College, and the enlargement of its sphere of activity and usefulness by securing a moderate permanent endowment. Your Committee, whilst it feels the force of the action of said convention, and acknowledges its right to be heard before this Synod; yet it does not see its way clear in view of the pressing demands upon the Church for Missions, Home and Foreign, Church Extension, the endowment of the Theological Professorship, and other interests, to present said action to this Synod for its consideration at this present meeting. Your Committee would, however, in view of what is believed to be a growing demand for more vigorous and aggressive work in the cause of Christian education within the bounds of this Synod, recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That Synod learns with pleasure of the evidences of improvement and hope for Mercersburg College, and heartily commends the President, Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh, D.D., and the Board of Regents for what they have done and are now doing, in the cause of Christian Education within its bounds.

Resolved, That Mercersburg College, with all its advantages to students, is hereby recommended to the sympathy and patronage of all our pastors and the people under their care.

Resolved, That the Synod hereby renews its pledge of three hundred dollars annually for five years towards the payment of the interest upon the debt of the College.

Resolved, That in order that the Board of Regents may be able the more rapidly to reduce the debt of the College and thus stop the payment of interest upon the same, this Synod will assume to raise during the current Synodical year Five Hundred Dollars, to be known and used only as a sinking fund, with which to pay the principal of the debt; provided, the Board of Regents, the Alumni and friends of the College will raise by bona fide subscriptions an additional five hundred dollars within the year for the same purpose.

Resolved, That the Synod recognizes the growing need within her bounds of an institution like unto Mercersburg College, in which the education of her children will be carried forward, and further, in order that the College may successfully do its work, a permanent endowment should be secured, and that this end may be speedily attained, this Synod earnestly urges those friends of education among her people blessed with means to contribute, by gift and bequest, for such permanent endowment.

Resolved, That Thursday evening of the next meeting of Synod be set apart for the discussion of the educational interests of this Synod, and the subjects and the order of discussion be committed to the Board of Education, and further, that the subjects be limited to two, and the speakers to four.

Respectfully submitted,

SIMON S. MILLER, *Chairman.*

The committee appointed to apportion the sum pledged to Wichita College and make prompt and energetic efforts to raise the amounts apportioned as soon as possible, reported the following apportionment to the Synod, which was adopted, namely: Maryland Classis, \$1040.00; Juniata Classis, \$720.00; Gettysburg Classis, \$720.00; Zion's Classis, \$480.00; Mercersburg Classis, \$480.00; Virginia Classis, \$320.00; and Carlisle Classis, \$320.00; making \$4080.00.

From the Treasurer's Report it was learned that the Maryland, Gettysburg, Mc-cersburg and Virginia Classes had paid their apportionments made a year ago for repairs to Mercersburg College in full, whilst Carlisle and Zion's Classes had paid only in part, and the Juniata Classis had not as yet paid anything.

The Synodical Professorship Endowment Committee submitted their report, which was received, amended and adopted, as follows:

REPORT OF SYNOICAL PROFESSORSHIP ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE.

Your Committee on the endowment of a Professorship in the Theological Seminary, at Lancaster, Pa., have to report that, so far as practical effort has been made during the past year, marked success has attended the work. The earnest discussion of the project upon the floor of Synod, and on the part of the Classes, and its agitation through the columns of the Church paper, have awakened increased interest throughout the Synod.

The necessity for the movement, and the many blessings involved in it, are coming to be more and more fully appreciated both by the ministry and laity. The favorable action taken by several of the Classes, in which they extend not only cordial sympathy, but active, energetic co-operation, augurs well for the endowment cause in the near future. It is gratifying to your Committee to state that our pastors generally are now prepared to move forward with warm hearts and with hands ready to work in behalf of this new and important interest.

Under the direction of your Superintendent, conventions were held in the Frederick, Westminster, York and Huntingdon Charges, when the endowment and its many correlated interests were earnestly discussed. The several pastors, who were invited to co-operate in this convention work, rendered able and efficient service. The effect of the discussion of our Seminary and general educational interests upon the people, even apart from the financial outcome, was of such character as to warrant your Committee in recommending similar work in all the Charges of the Synod. Our membership cannot be expected to rally to the support of our educational institutions unless they first be made thoroughly acquainted with their needs. And once properly appreciating their dependence upon our Theological Seminary, they will, sooner or later, give to it generous help. And inasmuch as the endowment of a professorship in the Theological Seminary will not only contribute to the advancement of the general interest of the Church, but also prove to be of an incalculable advantage to every congregation and individual member, your committee would therefore submit the following recommendations:

1. While there shall be no abatement of the efforts to secure large contributions from the wealthy members of the Church, the movement shall assume such a character as to be brought home to the hearts of the membership generally, and with such urgency as to secure contributions, whether large or small, from as many as possible.

2. For the enlightenment of our people as to the needs of the Seminary, and their own spiritual and educational needs, and for the purpose of pressing forward the work to an early consummation, we further recommend the holding of Endowment and Educational Conventions in as many charges of the Synod as practicable.

3. That these Conventions be conducted in the charges of the several Classes under the special direction of the Classical representative of the Endowment Committee; and that such measures be employed for securing contributions as may be deemed most expedient by the committee and the pastors.

4. That all our pastors, elders, deacons and people are requested by the Synod to give their united sympathy and active support to the endowment movement, as one of the most important and imperative interests of the Church.

5. That this Synod appoint the Rev. D. N. Dittmar as an Assistant Superintendent, who shall aid the Superintendent in the general management of the work.

While your Superintendent has spent much time in necessary preliminary work, in the sowing of seed, and organizing for the future, comparatively little time has been allowed him for direct canvassing. But the little that has been done in this branch of the work has yielded abundant fruit.

The former Superintendent last year reported \$7,000, as the result of the first year's effort, \$2,000 being in cash and \$5,000 in pledges. Up to date \$13,491.50 have been secured. Of this amount \$11,569 have been paid into the Treasury of Synod. The remaining \$1,922.50, in the form of pledges, will be paid in the course of a few months.

Let it be noted that but five congregations have been canvassed, viz.: Hanover, Frederick, Westminster, York and McConnelstown; and even from these five the returns are not all in. For the certain and early consummation of the work, we need but pray and labor.

Your Superintendent has incurred expenses for holding Conventions, travel, supply of pulpit, and postage, \$85.30. Of this amount \$61.20 have been paid, leaving an unpaid balance of \$21.10.

At the instance of the Superintendent, your committee request that the Superintendent's endowment account be audited by the Standing Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Committee,

J. C. BOWMAN, *Superintendent.*

An order on the Treasury of Synod for the amount of \$21.10 was accordingly given, and the Superintendent's endowment account was referred to the Committee on Finance for the purpose of being audited.

Item 9 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Revs. A. S. Weber, J. C. Bowman, C. U. Heilman, and Elders J. Heyser and D. Aurandt, for consideration. Subsequently, the committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

REPORT OF CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

Your committee, to whom was referred the communication from the Committee of the Alumni Association of Franklin and Marshall College, bearing upon the proposed celebration of the Centennial and Semi-Centennial of this Institution, begs leave to recommend the following action :

1. The Synod of the Potomac most heartily approves of the proposed celebration, and commends it to all our pastors and people.

2. That our pastors and people be requested to show their grateful appreciation of the important and invaluable service rendered the Church by Franklin and Marshall College, by personally attending the exercises of the Commencement Week of this collegiate year.

3. That our pastors be requested to acquaint their membership from time to time, privately and publicly, with the condition, purposes and needs of the college, and as favorable opportunity may be presented, urge those who have

large means to contribute liberally of the same to the endowment and support of the Institution.

Respectfully submitted,
A. S. WEBER, *Chairman.*

Item 11 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures was referred to a Special Committee, composed of Revs. W. Rupp, E. R. Eschbach, J. O. Miller, and Elders J. P. Reed and H. Wirt for consideration.

This committee, subsequently, presented the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your committee, to whom was referred the statement made by Rev. C. U. Heilman in regard to the intention of Mr. John Kunrath, of Portland, Oregon, to donate to this Synod a certain property for the use of a Mission House, would respectfully report as follows:

The information has been received through Rev. A. J. Olinger, that Mr. Kunrath proposes to donate to this Synod, for the use of a Mission House, one hundred and sixty acres of land, three miles in a direct line from Portland, Oregon, improved by a building suitable for a Mission House, capable of accommodating thirty boarders.

The committee recommend the following:

Resolved, That this Synod has heard with pleasure of the benevolent intention of Mr. Kunrath.

Resolved, That the Synod will gratefully accept the tender of this property, so soon as it shall be made in proper legal form, provided, there are connected with it no restrictions as conditions embarrassing to the Synod.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to enter into correspondence with Mr. Kunrath with a view to arranging the details of the proposed donation, and that this committee shall report to the next annual meeting of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,
Wm. RUPP, *Chairman.*

The Special Committee called for was appointed, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, E. R. Eschbach and W. Rupp.

The Board of Education, as instructed by the Synod of last year, arranged a programme for an educational meeting for Friday evening, which is found incorporated in the Report of the Committee on Religious Services.

The following action was reiterated, namely:

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., be requested to secure such changes in their Charter as to make the members of the Boards of Visitors and Trustees belonging to the Synods of the Potomac and Pittsburgh eligible directly by these Synods, instead of simply nominating, as at present.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to communicate the foregoing action to the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary.

Revs. E. R. Eschbach, J. O. Miller and A. H. Kremer were nominated as members of the Board of Visitors, and Elders Henry Wirt, Israel Laucks, H. Wirt Shriver, Edgar Slagle, Charles A. Shultz and Isaac H.

Keefer as the members of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., for the term of one year.

At the election for members of the different Boards of Synod, held during the session of Monday forenoon, Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, J. S. Kieffer and J. W. Santee were re-elected members of the Board of Education, for the term of three years. At the same time Revs. S. S. Miller, A. J. Heller and Elder Samuel Hoeflich were elected as members of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, for the period of three years.

The following individuals constitute the Board of Education and the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, severally at the present time, to wit:

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Revs. W. M. Deatrick, J. S. Kieffer and J. W. Santee, for three years; Revs. W. Goodrich, J. W. Knappenberger and Elder J. Heyser, for two years; and Revs. W. C. Cremer, S. S. Miller and C. Cort, for one year.

BOARD OF REGENTS: Revs. S. S. Miller, A. J. Heller and Elder S. Hoeflich, three years; E. J. Bonbrake, Esq., Elder A. B. Schnebly and W. Rush Gillan, Esq., two years; and Revs. W. M. Deatrick, W. Goodrich and C. Clever, one year.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions and of the Treasurer of said Board, and also of the Superintendent of Missions, and a Report from the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions having been referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for consideration, the committee reported during the session of Monday evening, the report being considered item by item, and then adopted as a whole. As such, it will be found subjoined in its proper place. The several Reports are as follows:

REPORT OF TRI-SYNODIC BOARD.

To the Synod of Pittsburgh:

Fathers and Brethren: We herewith transmit to your reverend body the annual report of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

We ask at your hands a careful consideration of the documents. The contributions to this cause have fallen short of last year nearly \$2000. This is much to be regretted, in view of the many promising fields opening up to our Church in the West. It is the purpose of the Board to occupy the large cities, the great centres of influence, as far as possible. In order to this, we need first-class men and means to support them liberally. We trust that you will therefore take such action as will awaken a spirit of Missions in all our churches and call forth increased contributions to the noble cause.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, President.

W. H. H. SNYDER, Secretary.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS FOR THE YEAR 1885-86.

To the Reverend Synods of Pittsburgh, of the Potomac, and of the United States:

DEAR BRETHREN:—I herewith present my First Annual Report, the thirteenth of the series under the tri-synodic plan of co-operation.

I feel free to say that the most valuable part of this Report (as also the most laborious) is the statistical table which in alphabetical order and tabulated form, gives a vast amount of information in regard to our missions, and so is worthy of most careful study. In fact, apart from it, the remarks made in regard to each mission have but little meaning. Both must be studied together.

THE MISSIONS.

Abilene, Ka.—The town is growing rapidly, and the prospects of the mission are bright. The foundation of the new church was laid August 1st. The citizens have given much toward it, and the congregation is very active, hoping to dedicate free of debt. This is possible, however, only in case they receive proper help from the East. The pastor has worked hard and lived at great self-denial, spending his own last private funds to supplement his small salary. Besides two congregations, he preaches at various country points as time allows.

Bangor, Pa.—During the year the missionary organized at Pen Argyl, a town of 1500, three miles from Bangor, with 48 members, a very promising point. Prospects good.

Catasauqua, Pa.—Rev. J. J. Crist, owing to ill health resigned, and the Board extends its sympathy to a faithful sufferer. In June, Rev. W. F. More took charge of the mission, and is hopeful, looking toward the payment of their small debt.

Clearville, Pa. (formerly called Clear Ridge).—This charge became a mission by reconstruction; and though self-support is not near at hand, patient, self-denying labor will do much to develope an old field.

Concord, N. C.—A young mission and weak, but healthy and growing. Paying the debt and building a parsonage, will claim their attention next year. Doing well.

Dubois, Pa.—Rev. W. M. Andrews resigned last winter, and the mission was without a pastor until June, when the present pastor took charge, with hard work before him. Hopeful.

Duncannon, Pa.—The hindrance here is loss by frequent removals, many of the members being railroad men. Its growth has been slow. Rev. J. R. Lewis left in June. In the absence of a pastor the statistics are defective.

Dushore, Pa. (formerly called Overton Mission).—The hard work of the missionary deserves notice. A church must be built at Dushore, another must be finished at Overton, and a small debt be paid at Elkland, toward all of which East Susquehanna Classis should give largely. After this is done the mission will soon be self-supporting.

Easton, Pa.—At the close of his tenth year, June 1st, Rev. D. Y. Heisler, D.D., resigned, and the mission has called Rev. C. W. Levan. Growth slow, but steady.

Emporia, Ka.—Rev. S. S. Meyer spent a few months here last winter, but discouraged with the mission he resigned, and they have since been in part supplied by Rev. D. B. Shuey. Prospects very poor. The parsonage mentioned in the statistics belongs to the Board of Missions.

Glencoe, Pa. (formerly called Will's Creek Mission).—As it now stands, the prospects for self-support are not good; but the missionary hopes that by reconstruction next spring it will become self-supporting.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Second Reformed Church, English. Its growth has been slow, but the material is good.

Houtzdale, Pa.—The people, few and poor, have done their utmost to support their pastor, and he has borne almost unreasonable self-denial to labor among them; but their prospects are very poor, with but little hope of betterment. A change is about to be made.

Imogene, Iowa, (formerly called Pleasant Valley Mission).—Rev. D. P. Lefever left May 1, 1886, and no successor has yet been commissioned.

Iola, Ku.—Prospects are not bright, but the mission is yet young. Removals have weakened it. The great need is a church. Last winter a congregation was organized at Allen Centre, with a dozen members.

Johnstown, Pa.—People are all poor, but united and willing. This year, for the first, they paid a fixed salary. The ladies have organized, working toward a new church. A parsonage is greatly needed. An encouraging mission.

Kansas City, Mo.—A lot was bought last winter and ground has been broken for a church. Appeals for aid from the East have been answered in pledges and money to the amount of nearly \$1,550. A Ladies' Aid Society was organized in May. The reports of the missionary are encouraging. He organized in February with 34, and now has 52 communicant members.

Lancaster, Pa.—The hope of this mission lies largely in the number of young people under its training. Its progress is seen in the growth of pastoral support which from 1879 onward was \$27.00, \$31.00, \$45.00, \$52.00, \$73.00, \$90.00, and in 1885 \$145.00. In 1879 it had 8 communicants; now it has 91.

Lansdale, Pa.—Sunday-school is large and prosperous. Church debt has been reduced. Prospects good.

Latrobe, Pa.—By united and most praiseworthy effort at Latrobe, a debt of \$648.00 has been paid, and now all feel encouraged. A new church now building in Ligonier Valley, will be much toward self-support.

Lincoln, Neb. (last year called Fairview).—The mission is not in the city, but four points, 8, 18, 20 and 25 miles away from it, served at great self-denial, especially during winter. Small growth. The mission cannot be called hopeful. To be discontinued after January 1, 1887.

Lincolnton, N. C.—Congregations are scattered and poor, but the work is going forward and deserves encouragement.

Liscomb, Iowa.—Owing to ill health the pastor may leave. The mission is weak, but the people are getting out of debt and will now do better.

Lock Haven, Pa.—The only discouragement is depression of business. Work is scarce. People have no money and many are leaving. The mission cannot thrive until the community thrives. But very encouraging is the payment of a debt on the church (by a hard struggle) and a spirited effort at self-help in the Sunday-school.

Mann's Choice, Pa. (formerly called Sulphur Spring Mission).—The pastor is urging self-support.

Marietta, Pa.—No church, but for eight years past the exclusive use of one, greatly improved by the congregation last spring. The appropriation is gradually going down.

McConnellsburg, Pa.—An old field, and the things that remain are weak. Pastor reports the prospects not encouraging. Removals and deaths weaken the mission.

McKeesport, Pa.—Four years ago we had nothing, where now we have two congregations, two churches (with but a trifling debt), an active membership and a cheering future. Last winter fire almost ruined the church

at McKeesport, but a wise insurance enabled the congregation to make it better than before. A debt of \$1884 was reduced to about \$500. McKeesport is a manufacturing town of 18,000, growing rapidly.

Mount Jackson, Va.—By good management they paid a debt on the church in the country, and \$250 on the parsonage in town. For the present the Methodist Church is used in town. Prospects good.

Napa, Cal.—Became vacant last January, by the removal of the pastor to Stockton, but in August, the Board sent Rev. T. G. De Lyre there from Portland, Oregon. The elders making out the Annual Report, say: "Very little prospect of self-support." The membership last year was reported as 64. Last winter the pastor reported 53. Now the elders report 14. Many families have withdrawn.

Newton, N. C.—Of the large membership many are poor. The floods also have weakened their ability to give, but the appropriation asked is much less. Building two churches also is a drain upon them and yet a good sign.

New York, N. Y.—This Martha Memorial Mission (so called in honor of the sainted wife of Mr. John Ruck, who has pledged \$5,000 and more to the building of the church, besides giving much free service in the work) needs and deserves far more aid than the church at large has as yet given it. What are the few hundred dollars thus far sent in toward a church costing \$15,000? The pastor is preparing the way for an English Mission in another part of the city. The mission receives \$250 from the German Board of Missions, in addition to our appropriation.

Orbisonia, Pa.—After a short pastorate, Rev. N. F. Peters left last spring. Though the appropriation has not been reduced for several years, the mission has done much necessary buying, building and repairing. The Classis is hopeful of it.

Phoenixville, Pa.—Taking this mission was a wise step, as the future will prove. For one year now it has received the whole time of the pastor and promises well.

Reading, Pa.—As from the beginning, so it continues to be supported altogether by the churches of Reading. Even the amount last year reported as paid by the Board (\$250) was really paid by them through receipts sent our treasurer. Hence it is thought best to simplify the statement, and with this note of explanation give it as it stands in the statistical table: \$350 from the congregation, and \$550 from the Board. Only two and a half years old it has made great progress. The Sunday-school has an average attendance of over 300.

Ridgely, Md.—Rev. C. W. Levan, who served this mission for three years is about to take the mission in Easton. All our available material having been gathered in, immigration having almost ceased, and many of our families having returned to Pennsylvania, the mission seemed to have no hope of self-support, and the Board has thought best to have it served by the pastor of Wyoming, Del.

Salem, Oregon.—Weak and slow growth, with no bright prospects. The pastor supports himself in part by teaching.

San Francisco, Cal.—Rev. L. D. Leberman, owing to ill health, left May 1st. Rev. C. M. Schaaf began in June. The mission has had a painful history, and only time can restore it to strength. The work is difficult and the progress may be slow.

Scottsdale, Pa.—The mission has been weakened by removals and self-

support is far off; perhaps worse than all is a lack of working together on the part of the members. Future doubtful.

Seattle, Wash. Ter.—Not promising for its age, but even this little mission has its missionary society of a dozen adults and four children.

Sharon, Pa.—Slow progress, and not very hopeful future. The pastor has really suffered for want of support.

Stafford, Oregon.—Hard work and great sacrifice on the part of the missionary (small salary, great distances, peculiar hindrances); slow progress in the mission.

Stockton, Cal.—Prospects not bright, to say the least. The court has now declared the parsonage ours, but the congregation has had great hurt in the struggle. The missionary, in addition to \$60 salary, receives also his boarding.

Stroudsburg, Pa.—This mission has asked a large reduction of appropriation. Hopeful future.

Timberville, Va.—The pastor took charge in December, 1885. Besides our appropriation he receives \$100 from Virginia Classis.

Tom's Brook, Va. (formerly called Harrisville Mission).—In addition to our appropriation it receives also \$25 from Virginia Classis.

Washington, D. C.—So much has been said of it in the church papers, that little need be said here. Its growth is encouraging.

West Philadelphia, Pa.—Doubling its membership this year, and reducing its appropriation \$100, in addition to heavy outlays in building, shows great progress and gives good hope. The congregation entered its new church in December last.

West Union, Oregon.—Rev. H. Stauss, after a pastorate of five years, withdrew in May last, owing to the illness of his wife. The Board is sorry to lose his faithful services.

Wichita, Ka.—During the year past the mission was regularly supplied by Rev. D. B. Shuey, and is in good condition. Rev. J. W. Love was commissioned June 1, 1886, but by authority of the Board has spent these several months in canvassing for funds for a church, and has received in money and pledges \$3000. He expects more from various sources.

Cheney, 25 miles from Wichita, is a part of the charge, but its statistics are not included in the table: communicants, 30; unconfirmed, 26; baptisms, 3; confirmed, 1; by certificate, 3; on profession, 5; deaths, 1; families, 14; Sunday-school scholars and teachers, 50; church worth \$2,000; debt, \$100; paid this year, \$300; insurance, \$1,700. Rev. J. H. Lippard supplied the congregation part of the year, but painful troubles have arisen, and the congregation is in a critical condition.

Wilkinsburg, Pa.—Rev. M. F. Frank, having been obliged by ill health to resign, Wilkinsburg and East Liberty were last February separated, the latter becoming self-supporting. Wilkinsburg is vacant.

Williamsport, Pa.—This mission has but little wealth of earth, and the reduction of its heavy debt will be a matter of patience. A large percentage of the members are minors, but just for this reason the hopeful element. The debt has not been increased during the year as a comparison of statistics might lead one to suppose. The statement of \$1,800 debt in the last annual report was an error arising out of a misunderstanding of the figures given.

Wilton, Iowa.—By the resignation of Rev. S. R. Runkel, the mission was vacant from April until July, but now is served by Rev. R. R. Lackey, with new hope.

Winchester, Va.—An old mission with a varied history, full of misfortunes and hindrances. The ruin of the church during the war, a poor rebuilding making a new church necessary now, a small membership, no wealth,—these things have been sorely against them.

Woodberry, Md.—A growing manufacturing town of 16,000, four miles from Baltimore (but each rapidly building toward the other). Maryland Classis deserves great credit for this mission, sparing the church at large just so much outlay. The pastor has up to the present had charge also of the East Baltimore Mission Sunday-school. Preaching three times every Sunday with eight miles travel is no light task. Both missions have greatly prospered.

Wyoming, Del.—A mission of long standing, and not as far on as one could wish, owing largely to a heavy debt on the parsonage.

REMARKS.

1. I have taken the liberty of changing the names of some of the missions, in order to give the address of the missionary without using a special column for that purpose. A note of the change is made in every case, under the head of each mission.

2. Those missions marked in the statistical table as taken by our Board in 1874, were received from the former Board and from some of the Classes, when this tri-synodical plan was begun.

3. A number of missions during the year have been dropped from the roll, as follows :

Blowing Rock, N. C.—It was on the Board for only a short time.

Valparaiso, Chili, S. A.—Was on the Board two years. No report was received from it for a long time, but last May the Board was surprised to hear that the missionary, Rev. A. Kreuter, had landed at New York. How many members he had or what was done we know not.

Wilmington, Del.—Organized in April, 1885, with fifteen members, it might have come to something if a pastor could have been sent there at once; but both attendance and membership decreased, so that at length the Board felt obliged to close it.

Somerset, Pa.—The Classis having added two congregations, the charge became self-supporting.

Middlebrook Mission and Mint Spring Mission having been united by Virginia Classis, became self-supporting. *Tionesta* has been abandoned.

New Castle, Pa.—This mission was organized in 1880. Early in its history already "difficulties" arose, which seriously affected its growth from year to year. Superintendent Appel in several reports refers to these things. In his last report he speaks of "some dissensions which unfortunately have not all been healed up." These troubles became so serious and destructive, that the mission could not possibly make progress. In such circumstances it seemed a duty to the Church at large to close the work.

Harrisburg, Pa.—Zwingli Mission, German, is about to be transferred to the German Board of the East.

Steelton, Pa.—No pastor having been located there, our members became scattered, and the Board did not feel justified in continuing it as a mission.

4. The following missions have been enrolled during the year: Kansas City, Mo., McConnellsburg, Pa., York, Pa., Phœnixville, Pa., Hazelton, Pa., and at the late meeting of the Board the following also: Boulder, Ia., East Baltimore, Md.

5. Of the 98 congregations in our missions, about 80 are organized according to the form of constitution prescribed by the Synod; and about 40 are incorporated in law.

6. I regret that by a defective series of questions in the form for the yearly report, I cannot report the amount of money raised by the Sunday-schools and congregations for current expenses and for benevolence, not even for both together. In the column of Sunday-school alms many reported only their alms proper, while others reported their whole giving and some reported nothing. It is worthy of note that many of them raise large amounts, but the reports give evidence that perhaps too little is given abroad, and the mission is not trained in liberality and church work. The result is likely to be narrowness of view and selfishness of spirit.

7. In the column of missionary societies, about 30 are reported; but some of these are really aid societies, *i. e.*, working for the congregation only, and were so reported with the amounts they raised; but I put them into this column because in a general way they are missionary, and also because after a while they will probably become fully such.

8. In some cases the missions receive aid from two sources. For example, Tom's Brook, Va., receives \$25 from Virginia Classis; the German Church in Harrisburg, \$200 from Ursinus Union; Marietta, Pa., \$75 from Lancaster Classis; Timberville, Va., \$100 from Virginia Classis; Williamsport, Pa., \$150 from West Susquehanna Classis; Dushore, Pa., \$100 from East Susquehanna Classis; Lancaster, Pa., about \$75.00 from the Lancaster churches; Phoenixville, Pa., \$150 from Philadelphia Classis; and possibly others of which I know nothing. Not only is there no gain in this, but also the propriety of it may be questioned on various grounds. To say the least, the Church has not proper credit for missionary money.

I have now given the outer history of these missions for the year; but their deeper history of struggle, sacrifice, anxiety, disappointment, success and joy, is known only to the great and loving God above us, who again and again says to His people: "I know thy works and thy labor and thy patience and tribulation and poverty."

KANSAS.

Rev. D. B. Shuey, Superintendent of missions in Kansas, gave half his time to Wichita, Ka.; gave attention to Kansas City, Mo., until a pastor came; organized the congregation at Hazelton, Ka.; transferred the mission at Baker, Ka., to the Ohio Synod's Board of Missions to be joined to the Wathena Mission; gave some time to Emporia and Fort Scott and lately to Topeka, where about twenty members have been found—besides other labors.

Early in June last, Rev. D. B. Shuey organized a congregation at Hazelton, Ka., with ten members. A few weeks later Rev. J. R. Lewis reached the mission, but thought its prospects did not warrant his remaining, and he in July accepted a call to Maquoketa, Iowa.

OREGON.

The Portland-Oregon Classis begs the Board to send them six missionaries for promising fields, but alas! where are the men? Rev. H. Stauss came eastward and Rev. T. G. De Lyre went to Napa, Cal., and so the missionary force is small. Rev. A. J. Olinger since May lives in Portland, but preaches at Stella, West Union, Oregon City, Damascus and other points.

EDITORIAL WORK.

Besides visiting about one-third of the missions, and as many as possible of the Classes, I have visited also many of the charges in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, to awaken a deeper interest in our work. Since July, also, I have regularly published missionary articles and items in the *Messenger*, at the request of the editor-in-chief.

The Reformed Missionary Herald has been published monthly and has been kindly received by the Church. The Board at its meeting in December last, approved the suggestion that it should be a four-page instead of an eight-page paper. Since February, it has by authority of the Executive Council been published by the Board of Publication, under the control and editorial direction of the Board of Missions. This change was made so that the Superintendent might more fully devote himself to visiting the churches.

OUR INCOME.

The Board a year ago asked for \$22,000 for the support of its missions. Of this amount we have received \$15,730.25, as follows:

From the Eastern Synod.....	\$8,044.04
From the Pittsburgh Synod.....	2,346.57
From the Potomac Synod.....	4,659.62
From miscellaneous sources.....	680.02
	—
Total.....	\$15,730.25

¶ This total is about \$2,000 less than the total of last year, but the difference is more than made up by the amounts paid in answer to the appeals of Rev. J. W. Love for Wichita, Ka., and Rev. R. L. Gerhart for Kansas City, Mo.

The Board asked also for \$5,000 for church building purposes. Of this amount we received but little. The Eastern Synod did not apportion this apart from the other; the Pittsburgh Synod did not accept its apportionment; and the Potomac Synod quite overlooked the matter, though some of the classes kindly assumed their just proportion. Hence it is impossible to report how much was received from each Synod. Grateful mention must be made of \$403 received from the Virginia Classis for this purpose, a fund at first intended for their own use, but now passed over into our treasury.

URSINUS UNION.

Rev. F. W. Kremer, treasurer of Ursinus Union, reports that for missions he has received during the year \$3,519.51, which has been paid out as follows:

For St. Mark's Chapel in Lebanon, Pa.....	\$2,922.51
Rev. L. K. Derr, Reading, Pa.....	200.00
Rev. Dr. J. Kuelling, Harrisburg, Pa.....	150.00
Rev. D. B. Shuey, for Kansas work.....	50.00

STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE MISSIONS UNDER THE CARE OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.



Mission Board of Ohio Synod.....	62.00
Rev. M. H. Mishler.....	25.00
Grace Mission, Philadelphia.....	100.00
South Philadelphia Mission.....	10.00

Total.....	\$3,519.51

ENLARGING THE WORK.

In looking over our great mission field, nothing can be plainer than the duty of enlarging our work. Besides various points in Pennsylvania where missions have lately been organized, and others where they should soon be organized, we should not fail to send men to a dozen or more of the leading cities of the West. To this end will the members of the church double their giving? The challenge is not unreasonable, for the Lord's call to do this is plainly upon us.

MORE MINISTERS NEEDED.

But so soon as we speak of sending out more men to the West, we are met by the painful question, "Where are the men?" We cannot in justice to the East spare any more; yea, the East needs more than we have. This only shows the necessity of calling upon our boys and young men to dedicate themselves to the holy ministry, and to pray the Lord of the harvest so to move and call them.

A DAY OF PRAYER.

The Board of Missions hereby overtures the Synods to appoint the first Sunday in Epiphany next to be observed in all our churches as a day of special prayer for missions, when also special offerings for the work shall be received.

THE AMOUNT NEEDED FOR THE COMING YEAR.

For the work of the coming year the Board respectfully asks the Synods to apportion \$22,000 for the support of the missionaries, and \$5000 for church building purposes, as follows:—*For Missions*: Synod of the United States, \$12,000; Synod of Pittsburgh, \$4,500; Synod of the Potomac, \$5,500. *For Church Building Purposes*: Synod of the United States, \$2,500; Synod of Pittsburgh, \$1,000; Synod of the Potomac, \$1,500.

In this connection allow me respectfully to suggest that the apportionment upon the Classes for church building purposes should be separate from that for the support of missionaries, in order that each charge may know how much is needed for each interest, and also that the Board may know how much has been received for each interest.

A CHURCH BUILDING FUND.

Nothing in our work gives the Board more trouble than the lack of funds for church building purposes. When Kansas City, Mo., Wichita, Ka., and Abilene, Ka., needed money to buy their lots and build their churches,

the Board could not give them prompt and proper aid. The result was loss to the Church at large. The two first named missions had to pay much more for their ground because they could not buy it at the right time, and of course the Church at large must pay this difference either directly or indirectly. We most earnestly beg, therefore, that in addition to the usual missionary alms a large amount may this year be given for church building purposes.

SPECIAL CHURCH BUILDING FUNDS.

In addition to a regular yearly income by apportionment for church building purposes, the Board has under consideration also a plan for raising Special Church Building Funds, not in the least interfering with the other, but rather supplementing it, namely:

1. Each fund shall be not less than \$500, paid by an individual, a family, a congregation or a Classis.
2. Each fund shall bear the name of the giver, or any other name he may choose, of the living or dead.
3. This money shall be under the care and control of the Board of Home Missions.
4. It shall be used only for the building of churches in missions under the Board.
5. No fund, and no part of any fund, shall be a gift to the mission, but shall be a loan, and always loaned on the following conditions: on first mortgage, payable within ten years, in not less than five equal instalments; the instalments to be paid at such time as may be agreed upon by the mission and the Board, bearing interest as follows: the first two years without interest; two years at three per cent.; two years at four per cent.; two years at five per cent., the last two years (if anything remains unpaid) at six per cent.—each instalment to bear interest from two years after date of mortgage; and with the further condition, that if the mortgage at any time be foreclosed, the whole unpaid part shall bear six per cent. interest from the date of mortgage.

This plan the Board has instructed me to bring to the notice of the Synods for their consideration, that so the Church may become more familiar with it, and also that we may have the benefit of their suggestions, if not of their approval.

MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

One very encouraging fact in our work, is the organization and activity of so many congregational missionary societies. In answer to over three hundred circulars of inquiry sent out to the pastors in our three Synods, it is seen that these societies abound and are very useful, not only in gathering alms, but also in training the young for usefulness in the Church.

With devout thankfulness to Almighty God for the mercies of the year, this report is respectfully submitted to the church.

A. C. WHITMER, *Superintendent of Missions.*

Lancaster, Pa., September 15, 1886.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States:

I beg leave to lay before you my annual report, exhibiting the financial condition of the Board for the year ending September 15, 1886.

The contributions received for Home Missions, Church Extension and Washington Mission during the year, and the disbursements made for those objects were as follows, viz.:

Synod of the United States.

Received of the Classis of	Philadelphia	\$234 83
" "	Tohickon	637 07
" "	Goshenhoppen	1163 11
" "	East Pennsylvania	832 29
" "	Lebanon	420 94
" "	Schuylkill	1173 50
" "	Lancaster	837 59
" "	East Susquehanna	980 18
" "	West Susquehanna	922 38
" "	Lehigh	842 15
Total from the Synod of the United States	—————	\$8,044 04

Synod of Pittsburgh.

Received from Treasurer of Synod	\$2341 57
" " Mr. David Oaks	5 00
Total from the Synod of Pittsburgh	————— \$2,346 57

Synod of the Potomac.

Received of the Classis of	Maryland	\$1138 65
" "	Mercersburg	597 49
" "	Juniata	1083 44
" "	Carlisle	356 30
" "	Zion	205 70
" "	Gettysburg	567 56
" "	Virginia	481 00
" "	North Carolina	154 21
" "	Iowa	5 00
" "	Oregon	70 27
Total from the Synod of the Potomac	—————	\$4,569 62

Miscellaneous Sources.

Received from Rev. E. Erb, Lincoln, Neb	\$10 00
Received from Ursinus Union	150 00
Received from Ladies' Missionary Society, Mulberry Charge, Indiana	11 00
Received from Young Men's Christian Association, Franklin and Marshall College	2 60
Received from Brown Memorial Reformed Church of Wichita, Kansas	2 92
Received from Society of Inquiry, Union Theological Seminary of New York	1 50
Received from an unknown female friend of missions . . .	500 00
Received from "Kate E."	2 00
Balance in Treasury Oct. 12, 1885	2186 48
Total from Miscellaneous Sources	————— \$2,866 50
Total from all sources	————— \$17,916 73

Disbursements.

Orders of the Board paid during the year	\$14,523 08
Orders of the Board paid by Treasurer of Pittsburgh	
Synod	2,341 57
Balance in Treasury, Sept. 15, 1886	1,052 08
	—————
To Balance in Treasury, Sept. 15, 1886	\$1,052 08

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLIAM H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.**Church Extension Fund.*

Dr.

To Balance in Treasury Oct. 10, 1885	\$387 07
To amount received on Gelbach Claim, viz.:	
From West Susquehanna Classis	\$18 38
" East Susquehanna Classis	80 00
" East Pennsylvania Classis	30 00
" Goshenhoppen Classis	10 60
" Tohickon Classis	35 00
" East Pennsylvania Classis	50 00
" the Synod of the North West	166 43
	—————
	\$390 41

Iola, Kansas, Mission.

Received from Middletown, Md., Charge	\$32 25
Received from Jefferson, Md., Charge	10 00
Received from Middletown, Md., Charge	6 00
	—————
	\$48 25

Kansas Mission.

Received from Reformed Sunday School, Woodstock, Va . . .	\$5 50
" " " " " Easton, Pa.	30 00
" " Bethany Orphans' Home	10 00
" " Egypt Charge, Lehigh Classis	25 00
" " St. John's Reformed Church, Allentown, Pa. .	24 74
" " Danville, Pa., Charge	3 00
" " Sulphur Springs Charge, Carlisle Classis . .	9 00
" " Newburg Charge, " " "	6 00
	—————
	\$113 24

Kansas City Mission.

Received of Reformed Sunday-school, Riegelsville, Pa . . .	\$52 00
Received of Missionary Society of Lincoln Reformed Church.	5 00
Received of Bloomsburg, Pa., Reformed Church	26 00
Received of Emanuel Reformed Church Sunday-school, Hanover, Pa	12 00
Received of Women's Missionary Society, Centre Hall Charge, Pa.	51 00
Received of Woodberry Mission, Maryland Classis	5 26
Received of Keedysville, Md., Reformed Sunday-school . .	10 00
Received of Rev. Thos. S. Johnson, D.D	5 00
Received of Bethany Orphans' Home	10 00
Received of Lischey's Charge, Gettysburg Classis	10 00
Received of Church of the Ascension, Norristown, Pa.	10 00
	—————
	\$196 26

Abilene, Kansas, Mission.

Received of Bloomsburg, Pa., Reformed Congregation	\$50 00
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Church of the Strangers, Philadelphia, Pa.

Received of St. John's Reformed Church, of Riegelsville, Pa	\$100 00
Received of St. John's Sunday-school, of Riegelsville, Pa	4 52
Received of Nockamixon Charge	20 00
Received of Macungie Charge	40 00
	———— \$164 52

Church Extension in General.

Received of Virginia Classis	\$403 87
Received of Emanuel Reformed Church, Hanover, Pa	16 00
Received of First Reformed Church, of York, Pa.	15 00
Received of Shrewsbury Charge, Pa.	20 00
	———— \$454 87

Roanoke, Va., Mission.

Received from Mechanicsburg Charge, Carlisle Classis	\$11 19
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Brown Memorial Church, Wichita, Kansas.

Received of Emanuel Reformed Church, Hanover, Pa.	\$50 00
Received on account of Pledges of Synod of Chambersburg, Pa.	226 29
Received from Zwingle Missionary Society, Shepherdstown, W. Va.	5 00
Received of St. John's Reformed Church, Allentown, Pa	15 00
Received of Boonsboro', Md., Missionary Society	10 00
Received of Middletown, Md., Missionary Society	10 00
Received of Arendtsville, Pa., Missionary Society	20 00
Received of Busy Workers of Salem Reformed Church, Harrisburg, Pa	10 00
Received of Boehm's Reformed Church, Philadelphia Classis	25 00
Received of Miss Barbara Hageman	10 00
Received of Mr. Geo. W. Hoover	5 00
Received of Mr. Jones Detweiler	5 00
Received of Mr. William Frantz	1 00
Received of Miss Cora Detweiler	1 00
	———— \$393 29

Hazleton, Kansas, Mission.

Received from Limerick Reformed Mission, Philadelphia, Pa.	\$5 07
Received of Mrs. M. Naomi Snyder, loan at six months	700 00
Received of Rev. J. O. Miller, D. D., loan at 90 days	1500 00
	————

Total from all sources	\$4414 17
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Church Extension Fund.

Cr.

By amount of loan to Washington Mission	\$300 00
By amount of loan to St. Paul's Reformed Church, Kansas City, Mo., secured by Mortgage	2500 00
By amount paid to D. B. Shuey, Superintendent	50 00
By amount paid to D. B. Shuey, Superintendent	77 75
By amount paid Rev. George H. Johnston	124 52
By amount paid Rev. R. L. Gerhart	52 00

By amount paid Rev. H. D. Darbaker	100 00
By amount paid Rev. G. Graedel, Seattle, W. T.	100 00
By amount paid Rev. D. B. Shuey, Superintendent, etc.	432 53
By amount paid Rev. R. L. Gerhart	10 00
By amount paid Rev. R. L. Gerhart	61 00
By amount paid Rev. R. L. Gerhart	12 00
By amount paid Rev. R. L. Gerhart	61 26
By Balance in the Treasury Sept. 15, 1886	533 11
	— \$4414 17

To Balance in the Treasury Sept. 15, 1886 \$533 11

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLIAM H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

Washington Mission Fund.

Dr.

To Balance in Treasury Oct. 10, 1886	\$66 81
To amount received from Rev. W. A. Haas, Treasurer of West Susquehanna Classis, from White Deer Charge	13 00
To amount received from Rev. W. A. Haas, Treasurer of West Susquehanna Classis, from classical contingent fund	6 00
To amount received from Daniel H. Heitshue, Treasurer St. Paul's Reformed Church, Lancaster, Pa.	35 00
To amount received from Rev. G. E. Addams, Treasurer Carlisle Classis, from Carlisle Charge	21 00
To amount received from Rev. W. A. Haas, Treasurer etc., from Boalsburg Charge	12 00
	— \$153 81

Cr.

By amount paid Mrs. A. V. L. Miller on account of note held by her against the Board.	\$66 81
By amount paid Mrs. A. V. L. Miller on account of note held by her against the Board.	19 00
By amount paid Rev. C. F. Sontag	35 00
By Balance in Treasury Sept. 15, 1886	33 00
	— \$153 81

To Balance in Treasury Sept. 15, 1886 \$33 00

Respectfully Submitted,

WILLIAM H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

We, the undersigned, a committee, appointed by the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, to audit the account of Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of said Board, respectfully report that we have attended to the duty enjoined upon us, and find the treasurer's account correct, with balances in the several funds as stated therein, viz.:

In the General Fund	\$1052 08
In the Church Extension Fund	533 11
And in the Washington Mission Fund	33 00

(Signed.)

Lebanon, Pa., Sept. 22, 1886.

ISAAC K. LOOS,
T. J. BARKLEY,
D. S. KELLER, } *Auditors.*

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC, OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED
STATES.

Dear Brethren :

LEBANON, OCT. 1, 1886.

We would respectfully call your attention to the work of Foreign Missions, as carried forward by the Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions of the Reformed Church, under the control of the General Synod.

Our work is assuming increasing proportions, both in the number of missionaries in the field, and the places now occupied and controlled by us as a Church. Having entered the Federation of Churches of the Presbyterial order, we have found as a decided advantage from such union, co-operation on their part, which secures to us an extended field, greater opportunities for usefulness, and the full return for all the money and labor which we may expend upon it. The city of Sendai in Northern Japan, with a population of 60,000, located in a province of 600,000, is given exclusively to us for our missionary and educational work. Whatever we may accomplish there will be to our credit as a denomination. A self-supporting church with nearly two hundred members has been ceded to us, and is now known as the Reformed Church of Sendai. There are several important towns which are anxiously looking to us to supply them with the means of grace. Our position at Tokio, with two missionary families, and six out-stations supplied by five evangelists, and the whole stretch of country from Tokio to Sendai, a distance of 250 miles, with the churches now organized, and two schools in operation, together with a female seminary for Sendai, and a training school for young men, also located at Sendai, will show the magnitude of the work we are now engaged in, and the necessity for active co-operation with the Board by the whole Reformed Church. The Lord has signally blessed our foreign work, by opening the way before us, and by influencing many to hear His word, and believe upon His Son. 115 were converted and received into the church during 1885, and since then almost every mail brings us the cheering intelligence of others who have consecrated themselves to God. Surely the Church at home has cause to rejoice at the signal success with which the labors of our dear brethren abroad have been blessed.

Our female missionaries are actively at work, and the foundation of a good school is being laid. They have shown themselves well qualified for mission work, and if properly and liberally sustained, will be the means of elevating many of their sex to the high plane of true Christian womanhood.

Dear Brethren, in view of all these facts, we trust that you will commend this cause, which is your cause, to the churches under your care, and that your Synod, which is represented in the foreign field by one of its members, the Senior Missionary, Rev. A. D. Gring, and also by Miss Mary B. Ault, will, as it has done in the past, cheerfully assist in this glorious work. I will not as Secretary presume to offer any other argument than the plain statement already made, leaving the whole matter to your conviction of duty, knowing that your hearts are already in the work. Respectfully,

THOS. S. JOHNSTON,
Secretary Board of Com. for Foreign Miss., Reformed Church U. S.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions respectfully report, that there was placed into their hands the Report of the Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, giving a brief, but encouraging statement of its work in Japan. There were also placed in our hands a letter from the President of the Board of Home Missions, conveying to us the Report of the Treasurer, and that of the General Superintendent.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We learn that the Board of Foreign Missions has entered into the "Confederation of Churches of the Presbyterial order," to great advantage, in the prosecution of its work, thereby extending our field of operations, with greater facilities of usefulness, and a larger return for the labor and means expended. Through this confederation a congregation of nearly two hundred members of professing Christians has been ceded to us, and now bears the name of the Reformed Church in Sendai, a city in Northern Japan of 60,000 inhabitants, located in a province of 600,000 people, given exclusively to us for missionary and educational work.

HOME MISSIONS.

The work of Home Missions has been successfully prosecuted through the liberality of our Churches, and the efficient labors of our General Superintendent. We learn from his report, that the field of missionary work is enlarging, calling for increased contributions and more laborers. The Board respectfully asks for the sum of \$22,000 to sustain our missions, fifty-seven in number, and an additional sum of \$5,000 for the building of churches, to be apportioned as follows: For the missions, Synod of the U. S. \$12,000, Synod of the Potomac \$5500, and the Synod of Pittsburgh \$4500. For the building of Churches, Synod of the U. S. \$2500, Synod of the Potomac \$1500, and Synod of Pittsburgh \$1000. In addition to the regular contributions, the Board recommends the following plan for the raising of funds for church building purposes only, viz.: in sums not less than \$500, to be given either by an individual, family, congregation, or by a Classis. No such fund shall be a gift to the mission, but a loan, and always on the following conditions: on first mortgage payable within ten years, etc. (See Superintendent's Report.)

Your Committee would offer for the consideration and adoption by the Synod the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the apportionment asked for by the Board for Home Missions be accepted, and also five hundred dollars of the fifteen hundred for church building purposes.

Resolved, That Synod heartily approves the purpose of the Board to formulate a plan for church building and church extension, the general features of which have been submitted to Synod in the Report of the Superintendent of Missions.

Resolved, That the said plan be referred to the Classes for consideration.

Resolved, That the moneys collected within the bounds of this Synod shall be kept separate, and shall be known as the Church Building and Church Extension Fund of the Synod of the Potomac.

Resolved, That the cause of both Home and Foreign Missions be earnestly commended to the prayers and liberality of our churches and people.

Resolved, That, in accordance with an overture from the Board of Home Missions, the first Sunday in Epiphany be observed in all our pastoral charges, as a day of special prayer and almsgiving in behalf of the missionary work.

The item from the minutes of the Maryland Classis, relating to missionary work in Baltimore, which was referred to your Committee, has received due deliberation, but in view of the present heavy demands upon the Treasury of the Board of Missions, such additional liability, as contemplated by the action of the Maryland Classis, is for the present deemed unadvisable.

Respectfully submitted,
A. H. KREMER, *Chairman.*

As regards the several amounts apportioned to the several Classes for Home Missions, by the Synod at Chambersburg last year, it was ascertained from the

Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, that the Juniata, Mercersburg, Virginia and Portland-Oregon Classes had fully met their apportionments, contributing more than the amounts assigned them by the Synod at Chambersburg; the other Classes falling short of their apportionment.

At the election for members of the different Boards, Revs. J. O. Miller and J. A. Hoffheins were elected members of the Synodic Board of Missions for the period of four years.

MEMBERS OF THE SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Revs. J. O. Miller and J. A. Hoffheins for four years; Revs. T. J. Barkley and J. C. Bowman for three years; Revs. E. R. Eschbach and E. N. Kremer for two years; and Rev. G. W. Welker for one year.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod for the past year was presented to the Synod, and referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows:

M. E. DOLL, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac.*

DR.

Nov. 9, 1885.	To cash from Dr. L. H. Steiner, former Treasurer	\$653.01
"	To cash subscriptions to Brown Memorial Church, Wichita, at Synod	55.00
"	To cash, basket collection for ditto, at Synod	38.29
Dec. 3, 1885.	To cash of Ladies' Missionary Society of Altoona for Brown Memorial Church	10.00

A. D. 1886.

Jan. 1.	To cash of Zion's Classis for Harbor Missions	\$6.42
" 1.	To cash of Zion's Classis for Mercersburg College	5.51
" 9.	To cash of St. Paul's Missionary Society, Woodstock, Va., for Brown Memorial Church	10.00
" 16.	To cash of Rev. B. R. Carnahan, \$3.00 part pledge and \$5.00 from St. Paul's Missionary Society for Brown Memo- rial Church	8.00
Feb. 9.	To cash of Rev. S. M. Hench for ditto	5.00
Mar. 2.	To cash from Chambersburg Church for ditto	100.00
May 19.	To cash from Gettysburg Classis for Contingent Fund of Synod and Gen. Synod	90.00
" 20.	To cash of Mercersburg Classis for College Repairs	60.00
" 21.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Mercersburg College	4.40
" 21.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Harbor Missions	5.13
" 27.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Mercersburg College	2.32
" 27.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Harbor Missions	4.80
June 16.	To cash of Portland-Oregon Classis	25.00
" 21.	To cash of Carlisle Classis, Contingent Fund	30.00
" 21.	To cash of Carlisle Classis, Gen. Synod	14.26
" 26.	To cash of Maryland Classis, Contingent Fund	300.00
" 26.	To cash of Maryland Classis, College repairs	130.00
" 26.	To cash of Maryland Classis, Roanoke apportionment	218.00
July 9.	To cash of Gettysburg Classis, Contingent Fund	190.00
" 19.	To cash of Virginia Classis, ditto	105.00

July 19.	To cash of Virginia Classis, College repairs	40.00
" 28.	To cash of Mercersburg Classis, Contingent Fund	115.00
Aug. 3.	To cash of Carlisle Classis	12.00
" 13.	To cash of Juniata Classis, Contingent Fund	140.00
" 23.	To cash of Gettysburg Classis, College repairs	90.00
" 24.	To cash of Carlisle Classis, Contingent Fund	8.00
" 26.	To cash of Carlisle Classis, College repairs	8.00
Sept. 17.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Contingent Fund	16.00
" 17.	To cash of Zion's Classis, College repairs	4.87
" 17.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Harbor Missions	3.00
" 17.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Washington Mission Chapel . .	10.00
" 25.	To cash of Juniata Classis, Theological Seminary 1885 .	50.00
" 29.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Contingent Fund	10.24
" 29.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Washington Mission Chapel .	3.50
" 29.	To cash of Carlisle Classis, College repairs	7.00
Oct. 1.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Contingent Fund.	14.72
" 2.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Contingent Fund.	8.40
" 2.	To cash of Zion's Classis, Harbor Missions	2.20
" 2.	To cash of Zion's Classis, College repairs	3.64
" 4.	To cash of North Carolina Classis, Contingent Fund.	50.00

CONTRA CR.

Nov. 14, 1885.	By cash to Rev. C. Clever, traveling expenses, Board of Regents	4.80
" "	By cash to Rev. W. C. Cremer, ditto	2.50
" "	By cash to Rev. A. H. Kremer, ditto, Board of Visitors	2.00
" "	By cash to Rev. E. R. Eschbach, Supt. Endowment Committee, expenses	24.75
" "	By cash, incidental expenses of Synod	25.00
" 16 "	By cash to Treas. Chas. Santee, Harbor Missions . .	120.00
" "	By cash to Treas. Jno. B. Roth, Theo. Seminary . .	65.00
Dec. 23,	By cash to Treas. Wm. M. Deatrick, Board of Education, Stoudenour legacy interest.	12.00
" "	By cash for printing and postage on circulars for collections to send Miss Ault to Japan	3.00

A. D. 1886.

Jan. 21. By cash to Reformed Church Publication Board for printing Minutes of Synod.	162.66
“ 21. By cash to Stated Clerk for freight and postage on Minutes of Synod.	11.50
“ 21. By cash to Mercersburg College, interest assessment	5.51
Feb. 10. By cash to Treas. Chas. Santee, Harbor Missions	6.42
Mar. 2. By cash to Treas. Wm. H. Seibert, for Brown Memorial Church	226.29
Apr. 17. By cash to Stated Clerk, salary	100.00
May 17. By cash to Rev. A. H. Kremer, traveling expenses, Board of Visitors	3.14
“ 20. By cash to Mrs. A. V. L. Miller, on loan by her to Synod for College repairs	60.00
“ 21. By cash to Rev. J. C. Bowman, Supt. Endowment Fund, expenses	38.00

June 24. By cash to Rev. S. S. Miller, traveling expenses, Board of Regents	7.20
“ 28. By cash to Mrs. A. V. L. Miller on loan for College repairs	136.72
July 3. By cash to Rev. C. Clever, traveling expenses, Board of Regents	7.00
“ 3. By cash to Rev. E. R. Eschbach, traveling expenses, Board of Visitors	6.00
“ 16. By cash to Rev. A. J. Heller, traveling expenses Board of Regents	6.08
“ 26. By cash to Treas. Chas. Santee, Harbor Missions	9.93
Aug. 13. By cash to Mercersburg College to meet interest on debt	300.00
“ 14. By cash to Rev. J. C. Bowman, Supt. Endowment Fund, expenses	23.20
Sept. 6. By cash to Mrs. A. V. L. Miller, on loan for College repairs	138.00
“ 20. By cash to Rev. J. O. Miller, traveling expenses to Lancaster	3.75
Oct. 4. Balance in Treasury	1156.26
Making	\$2,666.71

Theological Professorship Endowment Fund.

Dr.

To cash from Rev. E. R. Eschbach, former Superintendent	\$2,000.00
To cash from Rev. J. C. Bowman, Superintendent	9,569.00
To cash from interest on loans	116.51

Making	\$11,685.51
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CONTRA CR.

By loan on real estate mortgage	\$8,270.00
By 3 per cent. Certificates of Fredericktown Savings Institution	3,200.30
By accrued interest paid on mortgage	27.71
By cash on hand	187.50

Making	\$11,685.51
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REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance presented its report, during the session of Monday evening, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Finance respectfully report. We have audited the Treasurer's Report, comparing it with the vouchers, and found it correct. We have also audited the Report of the Superintendent of the Endowment Fund, examining the papers, and found it correct.

Item 7 of the Report on Minutes of Synod, relating to the pledge of \$500.00 apportioned by the Synod for repairs to the property of Mercersburg College, was referred to us. We have examined the proper records and find the following: Maryland, Gettysburg, Mercersburg and Virginia Classes have paid their apportionments in full. *Arrearages:* Juniata Classis \$90.00, Zion's Classis \$41.49, and Carlisle Classis \$25.00, making \$156.49 unpaid,

We have made the following apportionments and assessments to meet expenses for the synodical year, to wit:

Apportionment for Home Missions.

Maryland Classis \$1450, Juniata Classis \$900, Gettysburg Classis \$900, Mercersburg Classis \$550, Zion's Classis \$550, Virginia Classis \$450, Carlisle Classis \$450, North Carolina Classis \$225, Portland-Oregon Classis \$50 and San Francisco Classis \$50. Making \$5575.

Church Building Fund Apportionment.

Maryland Classis \$120, Juniata Classis \$75, Gettysburg Classis \$75, Mercersburg Classis \$60, Zion's Classis \$60, Virginia Classis \$60, Carlisle Classis \$60 and North Carolina Classis \$20. Making \$530.

Theological Seminary Assessment.

Maryland Classis \$80, Juniata Classis \$50, Gettysburg Classis \$50, Mercersburg Classis \$40, Zion's Classis \$40, Virginia Classis \$40 and Carlisle Classis \$40. Making \$340.

Mercersburg College Assessment.

Maryland Classis \$250, Juniata Classis \$125, Gettysburg Classis \$125, Mercersburg Classis \$90, Virginia Classis \$90, Zion's Classis \$85 and Carlisle Classis \$85. Making \$850.

Contingent Fund Assessment.

Maryland Classis \$125, Juniata Classis \$60, Gettysburg Classis \$60, Mercersburg Classis \$45, Virginia Classis \$45, Zion's Classis \$45, Carlisle Classis \$45, North Carolina Classis \$45, San Francisco Classis, \$10 and Portland-Oregon Classis \$10. Making \$490.

Respectfully submitted, J. B. SHONTZ, *Chairman.*

The request from the Carlisle Classis, under item 12 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes, was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. T. J. Barkley, S. L. Whitmore, J. H. Hartman, and Elders P. W. Shafer and D. S. Firor.

This committee, near the adjournment of Synod, reported as follows, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The committee, to whom were referred the discrepancies in the accounts of the Carlisle Classis, begs leave to report that they have examined the Minutes of Synod for 1885, and the Report of the Treasurer of Carlisle Classis, and find the arrearage still due to be \$50.49 on Washington Mission Chapel apportionment.

Inasmuch as there are no data at hand, by which the committee can determine or explain the cause of the discrepancies complained of, the committee recommends that the adjustment of them be referred to the Carlisle Classis.

Respectfully submitted, T. J. BARKLEY, *Chairman.*

ARREARAGES.

Washington Mission Chapel Apportionment: Zion's Classis \$255.25 and Carlisle Classis \$50.49.

Roanoke Mission Apportionment, changed to Church Extension: Gettysburg Classis \$162, North Carolina Classis \$75 and Zion's Classis \$21.10.

Harbor Mission Apportionment: Carlisle Classis \$30 and Zion's Classis \$14.50.

Theological Seminary Apportionment: Zion's Classis \$30.88 and Carlisle Classis \$26.98.

Assessment for Contingent Fund of Synod: Carlisle Classis \$85, Zion's Classis \$65.64, Juniata Classis \$50 and San Francisco Classis \$23.

Assessment for Mercersburg College: Zion's Classis, \$44.40 and Carlisle Classis \$4.19.

The Special Committee, appointed a year ago to elaborate a plan for paying money into the treasury of Synod, submitted the following report, which was received, and then, after some discussion, referred to the next annual meeting of the Synod for consideration and disposal. The report is as follows, to wit :

Your committee, appointed by the Synod of 1885 to elaborate and systematize a plan for the care and disposition of the Benevolent Funds of the Church, respectfully submit the following recommendations :

ITEM I.

Every charge within the bounds of the several Classes of this Synod, whether composed of one or more congregations, should elect annually a member who shall be known as the Treasurer of the benevolent contributions of the charge. He shall be chosen by the members of the Church where one congregation composes the charge or by the joint consistories in those charges having more than one.

ITEM II.

Duties of the Treasurer.

Section I. He shall receive and take charge of all the moneys collected during the Classical year in the different congregations of the charge not intended for local or home purposes and pay them out as may be directed by the committee appointed by the charge to disburse benevolent funds (see Section III, below).

Section II. He shall annually make a detailed report to the consistory or joint consistories of the amounts contributed for benevolent purposes by each of the congregations composing the charge and the different objects to which they were applied.

Section III. The consistory or joint consistories at the annual meeting, at the end of the Classical year, shall appoint two Elders, who, with the Pastor, shall decide how the funds collected in the charge for general benevolence shall be appropriated, giving precedence, however, to the payment of all assessments made by the Synods or Classes for the necessary contingent expenses of the organizations.

Section IV. That a permanent record of the benevolent offerings of the charges may be preserved, the Treasurer shall procure a suitable book in which the amounts received and disbursed may be recorded, and at the expiration of his term of office he shall deliver the same to his successor.

Section V. All moneys raised by the charges for general benevolence shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Classis to which they belong. If contributed for any special purpose, it shall be so designated when sent.

ITEM III.

Treasurer of Classis.

Section I. The Treasurer of Classis shall open an account with every charge composing the Classis, in which he shall charge them with the several assessments made by the Classis upon the charges, and credit them with the payments made thereon during the year, and as soon as possible after the annual meeting send each minister a statement of the amounts of such assessment.

Section II. All moneys contributed by the Churches and sent to the Treasurer, which are designated for any special or other purpose are to be promptly sent by him to the persons authorized to receive the same, and it shall be his duty faithfully to carry out the wishes of the ministers or others sending the same.

Section III. In addition to the annual report as now made to Classis, the Treasurer shall prepare a statement of the amounts received by him from each

separate charge and for what purposes they were appropriated. He shall also report the names and amounts due of all charges delinquent on assessments.

Section IV. The committee appointed at the annual meeting of the Classis on the State of Religion and Statistics, shall only include in the Statistical table the amounts contributed for the benevolent objects of the Church which have passed through the hands of the Treasurer of Classis. Except such benevolent contributions from a charge as may be specially mentioned in the Parochial and Statistical Report of the charge, the amounts and the purposes for which given being stated therein, these shall be included in the committee's report and the charges credited therewith.

Section V. The Treasurer of Classis shall, at such times as he may deem expedient, publish in the Church paper proper acknowledgments of all moneys received by him for benevolent purposes, giving names of charges contributing the same and for what purposes appropriated.

ITEM IV.

Treasurer of Synod.

Section I. The Treasurer of Synod shall receive and expend only such funds as belong properly to the Synod; as moneys for contingent expenses, trust funds held by it, endowments, etc., etc.

Section II. He shall open an account with the Treasurer of the several classes of the Synod in which he shall charge them with the apportionments due the Synodical Treasury and credit them with the payments made thereon during the year. He shall keep no accounts with or receive any funds from individual charges or congregations of the Synod, either on Classical apportionments or for other purposes.

Respectfully submitted,

H. WIRT,
M. E. DOLL, } Committee.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of the Synod presented its annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received and adopted. It is as follows, to wit:

The Board of Trustees of Synod would report, that we met and organized in conformity with the charter, electing Rev. A. H. Kremer, President, and Rev. E. R. Eschbach, Vice-President and Secretary.

The funds secured for the endowment of the Professorship in the Theological Seminary are safely invested, according to instruction, as see per detailed statement of the Treasurer of Synod.

The term of Elder J. Taylor Motter will expire January 1, 1887, and his successor should be elected at this meeting of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

October 7, 1886.

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Secretary.*

At the election for members of the several Boards of the Synod, Elder Henry Wirt was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of the Synod for the term of five years from January 1, 1887.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder H. Wirt, five years; Elder M. E. Doll, four years; Dr. L. H. Steiner, three years; Rev. E. R. Eschbach, two years; and Rev. A. H. Kremer, one year.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Item 11 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Revs. W. Rupp, A. H. Kremer, J. H. Hartman, and Elders H. Wirt and D. B. Seibert. This committee reported, during the session of Monday forenoon, which was received, amended and adopted, as follows:

Your Committee, to whom was referred item 11 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes, would respectfully offer the following report:

The committee finds that, inasmuch as the matter out of which the so-called appeal grew was not a judicial process, and involved no judicial sentence, it is not properly an appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM RUPP, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

Items 7 and 8 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures were referred to the same committee for consideration. The committee reported during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received and adopted, as follows:

Your committee to whom was referred the complaint of certain members of the Portland-Oregon Classis against certain action of said Classis, would respectfully submit the following report. The committee finds that there is no record of any notice of complaint in the minutes of the Portland-Oregon Classis, and that the complaint, therefore, as such, is not in order. It is the opinion of the committee, however, that on account of the importance of the interests involved in the case, an opportunity should be given to the representatives of the complainants and also of those of the Classis to be heard by the Synod, so that justice may be done in the case, and the interests of the Church in the bounds of the Classis be protected. We accordingly recommend the following:

Resolved, That an opportunity be given to the brethren complaining, or their representatives, and also to those of the Classis, to make a statement of their case, and that the time for this hearing be fixed for the opening of Monday morning session, and that each party shall have fifteen minutes in which to present their case, after which the Synod shall take such action as may be deemed proper in the premises.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM RUPP, *Chairman.*

At the time designated, the hearing took place. Revs. C. U. Heilman and E. R. Eschbach appeared for the complainants, and Rev. A. C. Whitmer in defense of the Classis. After considerable discussion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Synod requests the Portland-Oregon Classis to give a hearing and careful consideration to the proposition laid before them by the complainants in this case.

ARTICLE XVIII.
SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its Annual Report to the Synod during Thursday afternoon's session, which was received, amended, and adopted, as follows:

Dear Brethren:

The Sunday-school Board begs leave to present the following report to the Synod:

With the favor of Divine Providence we have enjoyed a year of prosperity in the Sunday-school work. Sunday-school Conventions have been regularly held in the different Classes. They have as a rule been largely attended and have been a source of encouragement and profit to pastors and people. Many of these conventions were conducted as Church and Sunday-school conventions, their aim being to bring the Church and Sunday-schools more closely together in fellowship and work. The cause of missions, both foreign and domestic, the claims of Orphans' Homes and the educational institutions of the Church, catechization, Christian benevolence, and the cause of temperance were the objects which were especially discussed and emphasized.

The last Sunday in September, which was set apart by resolution of Synod as "Children's Day," was generally observed within the bounds of Synod. The churches were beautifully embellished with flowers, the service prepared by the Publication Board was used, and collections lifted for benevolent purposes.

The Board would also report the sum of \$81.93 in the hands of the Treasurer, at the close of the fiscal year. We would respectfully recommend that a Sunday-school anniversary meeting be held on Thursday evening of the present sessions of the Synod. Respectfully submitted,

G. S. GRIFFITH, *President.*

The following resolutions were reiterated:

Resolved, That the Synod designates the last Sunday in September next as *Children's Day*, and recommends the congregations under this judicatory to observe that day for the purposes specified.

Resolved, further, That we recommend that all the services of the day designated be for the special benefit of the children, and suited as much as possible to their capacity.

Resolved, still further, That all the collections listed on that day be devoted to strictly benevolent purposes.

At the election held for members of the different Boards of the Synod, Rev. B. R. Carnahan was elected a member of the Sunday-school Board for the period of five years.

MEMBERS OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. B. R. Carnahan, five years; Rev. D. N. Dittmar, four years; Elder G. S. Griffith, three years; Rev. F. F. Bahner, two years; and Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, one year.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The following standing rules were adopted with reference to representation, when the Synod meets as a delegated body, to wit:

1. Ten days before the annual meeting of the Synod, the Stated Clerks of the several Classes shall furnish the Stated Clerk of the Synod with the credentials of the delegates of their respective Classes, and also a copy of the official roll of their Classes, as it then stands, which roll shall determine the number of delegates or representatives to be seated.

2. At the organization of the Synod, the Stated Clerk shall call the roll of delegates and alternates in the order in which they stand on the lists of credentials furnished by the Stated Clerks of the Classes, until the delegation is full.

3. The several Classes are recommended to conform their rules with regard to alternates to the foregoing rule.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was submitted by the Stated Clerk, in connection with item 24 of the Report on Minutes of Synod, which was received and adopted :

REPORT ON PUBLISHING THE MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Synod printed and bound in pamphlet form, and distributed them agreeably to the rules and regulations in the case. The work was done by the Reformed Church Publication Board, at the cost of \$162.66, which was promptly paid by the Treasurer of Synod. The slight increase of cost over the previous year resulted from an increased number of pages of the Minutes. Respectfully submitted, Wm. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

REPORT OF REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD.

* TO THE SYNODS OF THE UNITED STATES, PITTSBURGH AND POTOMAC

The Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, would respectfully submit to the Synods named, this, its Annual Report:

The Board as usual held three regular meetings during the year just closed. The officers of the preceding year were continued, viz: President, *George Gelbach*; Secretary and Treasurer, *Rev. Charles G. Fisher*.

From the annual statement submitted by the Superintendent, *Rev. Chas. G. Fisher*, at the last meeting held September 9th, is to be gathered the following :

AMOUNT OF BUSINESS FOR 1885-86.

Subscriptions in Periodical Department.....	\$26,300.00
Sales in Book Department.....	14,651.23

Total.....\$40,951.23

RECEIPTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JULY 31ST, 1886.

From Periodicals.....	\$23,536.46
" Book Store.....	13,216.06
" Rents.....	544.00
" Collections.....	270.27
" Miscellaneous Sources.....	1,329.93

Total Receipts.....\$38,896.72

DISBURSEMENTS :

Loans, etc., paid.....	\$ 350.00
Printing, Paper and Binding.....	21,200.52
Interest.....	2,366.25
Commissions.....	1,229.85
Merchandise.....	4,767.58
Salaries.....	6,100.99
Postage and Expressage.....	635.60
Miscellaneous.....	1,969.03
 Total Disbursements.....	 <u>\$38,619.82</u>
 Excess of Receipts.....	 <u>\$276.90</u>
LIABILITIES—1886:	
Notes on which interest is paid.....	\$27,761.90
Mortgage on Building.....	15,000.00
Miscellaneous.....	5,812.49
 Total Liabilities 1886.....	 <u>\$48,574.39</u>
Total Liabilities 1885.....	<u>48,639.56</u>
 Decrease of Liabilities.....	 <u>\$65.17</u>

ASSETS—1886:

As estimated by Committee:

Book Accounts	\$ 4,841.00
Periodical Accounts.....	12,300.00
Stock in Store.....	5,118.00
Books in Sheets.....	2,308.00
Paper on Hand.....	417.00
Stereotype Plates.....	3,000.00
Miscellaneous.....	5,999.00
Real Estate.....	35,000.00
 Total Assets 1886.....	 <u>\$68,983.00</u>
Total Assets 1885.....	<u>70,679.69</u>
 Decrease of Assets.....	 <u>\$1,696.69</u>
Assets.....	\$68,983.00
Liabilities.....	48,574.39
 Excess of Assets.....	 <u>\$20,408.61</u>

The Committee appointed to examine Stock, etc., submitted the following report, which was unanimously adopted :

PHILADELPHIA, PA., SEPTEMBER 8, 1886.

Your Committee appointed to take account of Stock, estimate the value of assets, and report upon the general condition of the affairs of the Board, would offer the following for your consideration :

We find the stock in store properly kept and salable. The total receipts of the past year have been slightly in excess of expenditures, and there has been a small decrease in liabilities.

We are glad to be able to say that the subscription lists of Sunday-School helps and periodicals of the Board, have been considerably increased during the year, except the *Sunday-School Treasury* and *Reformed Quarterly Review* which have about held their own.

It is to be regretted that the business of the Book Department has fallen off to some extent, which is, no doubt, owing to the stringency of the times.

The general assets of the Board are about the same as in former years, though the committee has cut them down in their estimate nearly two thousand dollars. We feel also that the general business outlook of the establishment is not as encouraging as it might, or as desirable as it should be.

Our expenses are necessarily very heavy, as long as we have so large an indebtedness to carry. What to suggest is perhaps difficult, but after considerable thought and consultation, we would offer the following for your adoption:

1st. WHEREAS, the finances of the Board require that the expenses should be kept as low as is consistent with a proper regard for usefulness, and

WHEREAS, we believe that a saving of more than one-half of what we now pay for editing the *Messenger*, can be effected by securing some one in the regular pastorate, or other professional calling to provide the editorial matter and make the selections; the other work to be done by our Superintendent, as is done in the case of all the other periodicals and Sunday-School helps; and

WHEREAS, Good business management requires that the Board, who is financially responsible, should have full control of all its affairs, Therefore

Resolved, That we hereby overture the Synods owning this establishment to allow the Board to arrange for the editorial conduct of the *Messenger*, as we now do for the other periodicals we publish, the same to go into effect January 1st, 1887.

2nd. WHEREAS, The large indebtedness of the Board is a very serious hindrance to its usefulness, and there is no immediate prospect of the income from business reducing liabilities to any considerable extent, and

WHEREAS, It may be deemed advisable by the Board, during the coming year, to sell out the general assets of the establishment, and also the real estate—one or both—to a private party or company, with a view to reorganize the entire business of the Board, and pay off our indebtedness, as far as possible; therefore

Resolved, That we hereby ask the Synods of Pittsburg, Potomac and of the United States, to grant the Board full plenary power to make the sale, or sales, set forth in the above preamble, provided, that neither the general assets or real estate shall bring less than the committee's estimate of them for the year ending July 31st, 1886.

We further recommend that the Board reiterate and renew its request to the Synods that annual collections be lifted in all their churches for the benefit of the Board, as is done by other denominations in the interest of their printing establishments. We believe it is but right that our Reformed people generally, should have part in carrying on this branch of the Church's benevolent work, and that the contributions to the Churches will more than equal their investments in the way proposed.

J. W. LOVE.
GEO. W. HENSEL.
HENRY WIRT. } Committee.

In addition to what is referred to in the report of the Committee touching the business in the two departments, it may be stated, that during the year the number of books, tracts and services of different kinds printed for the Book department, was 55,000. Of this number there were 18,000 almanacs. In the Periodical Department the number of periodicals published amounted to the sum total of 90,000. In both departments the number has been considerably over that of the preceding year.

During the fore part of this year arrangements were effected by which the *Sunday School Missionary*, published by the Board, and the *Missionary Sentinel and Herald*, published by the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, were consolidated under the title of *Reformed Missionary Herald*, with Rev. A. C. Whitmer, Superintendent of Missions, as Editor. The price of the new paper was fixed at 25 cents per copy to one subscriber, and 20 cents per copy in clubs of more than five to one address. As its name indicates it is devoted to the interests of Missions, Foreign and Domestic, and should have a wide circulation. It has now a subscription list of 5000, but should have at least four times that number. It is to be hoped pastors and others interested in the great work of Missions, will lend their aid in getting it into the hands of every member of the Church.

The term of George Gelbach, as Trustee of the Synod of the United States, and that of Henry Wirt, of the Synod of Potomac, expiring at the end of the present year, the Synods named will therefore have to fill the vacancies that will thus occur in the Board, at their coming annual sessions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 24, 1886.

GEO. GELBACH, President.
CHAS. G. FISHER, Sect'y.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication presented its report, during the session of Friday forenoon, which was received, amended and then adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on Publication would respectfully beg leave to submit the following report:

Three papers came into your committee's hands. 1.—The Report of the Board of Publication for the year ending July 31, 1886. 2.—A communication from Rev. Dr. P. S. Davis, Editor-in-Chief of the *Messenger*, requesting the appointment of a commission, who, together with similar commissions appointed by the Synods of the United States and Pittsburgh, shall be clothed with power to receive and act upon his resignation, in the event of his being compelled to offer it, and also to elect his successor. 3.—A communication from the Pittsburgh Synod, setting forth its late action on the affairs of the Board of Publication.

The gross amount of business, as set forth by the Report of the Board of Publication for the year 1885-86, was \$40,951.23; the receipts for the year were \$38,896.72; the disbursements were \$38,619.82; showing an excess of receipts of \$276.90. Total liabilities in 1885, \$48,639.56; total liabilities in 1886, \$48,574.39; decrease in liabilities, \$65.17, showing the profits on the business for the year to be \$342.07.

Total assets, as estimated by the committee, for the year 1885, \$70,679.69; total assets for 1886, \$68,983.00; decrease in assets, \$1696.69. Deduct

from this shrinkage of assets the profits on the business for the year, as appears above, to wit, \$342.07, and the exhibit is a net shrinkage of \$1354.62. As a summary we have exhibited to us,—assets, \$68,983.00; liabilities, \$48,574.39. Excess of assets, \$20,408.61.

The Board of Publication, in view of the unsatisfactory state of affairs, after assigning its reasons in each case, makes two requests of the three Synods, in the form of the following resolutions: 1. *Resolved*, That we hereby overture the three Synods owning this establishment, to allow the Board to arrange for the editorial conduct of *The Messenger*, as we now do for the other periodicals we publish, the same to go into effect January 1, 1887. 2. *Resolved*, That we hereby ask the Synods of Pittsburgh, Potomac and of the United States, to grant the Board full plenary power to make the sale or sales, set forth in the above preamble, provided that neither the general assets nor real estate shall bring less than the committee's estimate of them for the year ending July 31, 1886.

The sales spoken of in this resolution are those of the general assets of the establishment, and also the real estate—one or both—to a private party or company, should such sales be deemed advisable to the Board, during the coming year.

Rev. Dr. P. S. Davis sets forth in his communication that, although his health has been so far recovered as to encourage his physicians to hope that with care he might yet be of service to the Church in the office to which he was elected eleven years ago, he feels his liabilities to be so great that he respectfully and earnestly asks each Synod to elect a commission of three or five members, who jointly shall be empowered to consider and act upon his resignation as Editor-in-Chief of *The Messenger*, in case he should be compelled to offer it, which is probable, and also to elect his successor.

Your committee was impressed with the exceeding gravity of the contents of these two papers, and they have commanded their most serious consideration. They perceive that there has been a shrinkage of assets, during the past year, of \$1354.62. This loss would not be so disheartening, were it an exception; but the history of the finances of the establishment shows a shrinkage of about \$1000 a year, ever since its removal to Philadelphia. One thing has forced itself upon the minds of your committee, with the weight of clear conviction, and that is, that there *must* be a change—and that, if not effected by the Synods of their own motion, it would be forced upon them in the near future. Your committee have concluded to recommend to this Synod, that authority be given to the Board to sell the real estate, and as much of the general assets as may be necessary to reduce the indebtedness to a manageable figure.

Your committee reaching this conclusion, then considered whether, with the liabilities reduced to a more moderate sum, the outlook was favorable for a successful prosecution of business with the remaining burdens of expense resting upon it. After a laborious calculation, the judgment reached was, that the venture would be exceedingly hazardous. So that we felt that a further safeguard was stringently demanded. We therefore feel constrained to recommend to this Synod, that steps be taken at the earliest possible date, for the removal of the Establishment to some inland town, where the expenses of salaries, etc., may be materially reduced, and yet afford a fair compensation to its operators. This we conceive can be done, without interfering with the efficiency of the workings of the establishment, and at the same time soon cancel the remaining indebtedness, and open the way for either extended operations or an annual revenue to the three Synods.

Touching this last recommendation, your committee would beg to decline offering any specific form of action, but would leave it to Synod itself to formulate such action as in its wisdom it may deem wise. Your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be clothed with plenary power to make sale of the real estate, and so much of the general assets, exclusive of the periodicals, as may be necessary to reduce the gross liabilities to a manageable figure, upon the most advantageous terms possible.

Resolved, That a commission be created, composed of the two members of the Board of Publication representing this Synod, together with a minister elected by the Synod, who shall act for this Synod in the reception, consideration and action upon the resignation of the Editor-in-Chief of *The Messenger*, should such resignation be tendered, during the present Synodical year. And in that event, said commission is hereby authorized to act for the Synod in making provision for the editorial management of *The Messenger*, until the next meeting of this Synod.

Resolved, That the Synod of the United States be requested to conform its action on this subject to that of this Synod, and the similar action, previously taken, of the Pittsburgh Synod. Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER, *Chairman.*

At the election held for members of the several Boards of the Synod, Elder Henry Wirt was elected a member of the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church, for the term of four years. At the same time, Rev. E. R. Eschbach was chosen commissioner to constitute with Elders H. Wirt and G. S. Griffith the commission called for in the Report of the Committee on Publication.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder H. Wirt	4 years.
Elder G. S. Griffith	1 year. ;

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the present sessions, duly authenticated, printed, and to distribute the Minutes among those entitled to receive them.

He was also directed to have five hundred copies of the Rules of Order, as adopted, printed for the use of the members of the Synod.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the session of Saturday morning, the Standing Committee on Nominations presented its report, which was received and adopted. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have a sufficient number of tickets of the nominations printed for the use of the Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for 11½ o'clock of Monday morning's session. At the time designated, the election took place. Revs. J. Hassler, T. F. Hoffmeier, and Elders M. Hess and P. W. Shafer were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be

found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Regents of Mercersburg College, Visitors and Trustees of the Theological Seminary, Missions, Trustees of Synod, Sunday-school, and Publication.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 4, reported a statement of the workings, condition and needs of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., which was referred for consideration to a Special Committee, composed of Revs. W. Rupp, A. F. Dreisbach, H. Hilbush, and Elders P. W. Shafer and D. Biser. This committee subsequently submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, namely:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Superintendent of Bethany Orphans' Home, would respectfully offer the following as their report: From the statement of the Superintendent we learn that the Home is in a flourishing condition. The number of children in the Home is sixty-four. The harvest this year was good; and there is no debt except a few hundred dollars. We recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Synod feels thankful to God for the prosperous condition of the Home at this time.

Resolved, That we again commend this Home to the sympathy and liberal patronage of our people.

Resolved, That the congregations within the bounds of this Synod be requested to take collections for the cause of the orphans during the Christmas holidays.

Respectfully submitted,

Wm. RUPP, *Chairman.*

Under item 25 of the Report on Minutes of Classes, the Stated Clerk reported that he had sent an official copy of the proceedings of the Synod at Chambersburg, last year, in reference to the bi-centennial of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, as observed by the Synod, to the Rev. Dr. Pressensé of Paris, with the request that he lay them before the Synodical authorities of the Reformed Church of France. In due time, a letter of reply was received, written in French, a translation of which is here appended.

PARIS, 6th December, 1885.

Monsieur and Honorable Brother:

I express, in the name of our whole French Protestant Community, our profound gratitude for the part which your Synod has taken in the bi-centennial celebration of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. We have once more been made sensible of the solidarity which unites the entire Reformed family,—in the past as in the future.

Our Reformed Church in France comprises two divisions—the one separate and independent of the state, the other still united to the State. I reply to you in the name of the former.

I shall transuit your letter to the Synodical Committee of the latter, who will desire also to have the honor of addressing a reply to you.

Receive, Monsieur and honored brother, the assurance of my fraternal regards in Jesus Christ. E. DE PRESSENSÉ, Senator,

President of the Synodical Committee of the Union of Evangelical Churches of France.

The special committee, appointed by the Synod a year ago, to report a plan, if possible, whereby superannuated and disabled ministers may be furnished with a sufficiency to live, if in need, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Committee, to whom was referred the subject of reporting a plan to afford relief to superannuated and disabled ministers, would report as follows: We have given the subject careful consideration, and though not now prepared to suggest definite action, such as would warrant success, its importance has not diminished, but rather grown upon us. We are assured that the time is not far distant when something practical will, nay must, be inangurated to reward faithful servants, who have spent their strength in the Master's service.

Respectfully submitted,
J. O. MILLER, *Chairman.*

A new committee to consider this subject was appointed, consisting of Revs. J. S. Kieffer, S. N. Callender, J. O. Miller, and Elders H. Wirt and J. P. Reed, to report to the next annual meeting of the Synod.

NATIONAL REFORM ASSOCIATION.

The presence of Rev. Wm. Weir, District Secretary of the National Reform Association, was announced, during the session of Wednesday morning. He was granted the privilege of addressing the Synod in regard to said Association, which he accordingly did. A vote of thanks was returned to him for his address.

On Wednesday morning, Revs. J. D. Miller, B. R. Carnahan and F. J. Sauerber were appointed a committee to report the proceedings of Synod for the public press.

Shortly before final adjournment the Committee reported, as follows, which was received and adopted:

The undersigned, appointed to furnish the proceedings of this body for the different newspapers, would respectfully report, that daily abstracts of the proceedings have been sent to the *Altoona Tribune*, *Chambersburg Repository*, *Daily Register* of Chambersburg, *Baltimore Sun*, and *Rockingham Register* of Harrisonburg, Va.

The expenses incurred for paper and postage are forty-two cents.

Respectfully submitted,

J. DAVID MILLER,
B. R. CARNAHAN.

The amount of expenses was ordered to be paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

On Friday morning Rev. Dr. Aughinbaugh, President of Mercersburg College, extended a cordial invitation to the Synod to visit the College, at such time as would suit the Synod. The invitation was accepted, and the visit was made by the Synod in a body at four o'clock on the afternoon of that day.

On motion, the Treasurer of Synod was instructed to pay to the *Pastor loci* twenty-five dollars to defray necessary incidental expenses.

A committee on Leave of Absence was appointed, consisting of Revs. J. B. Shantz, I. N. Peightel, M. L. Firor, and Elders H. Mickley and J. Fitz. The committee, near the hour of final adjournment, presented the following report, which was received and adopted, namely:

Your Committee on Leave of Absence beg leave to report, that the following persons were granted leave of absence:

Elder J. S. Witmor, on *Thursday morning*; Rev. J. G. Noss, on *Friday morning*; Elder S. Sprankle, on *Friday afternoon*; Rev. F. J. Sauerber and Elders J. Deissinger, J. H. Bauserman, J. Z. Hildebrand and S. Schwartz, on *Saturday morning*; and Revs. B. F. Bausmann, E. R. Eschbach and G. W. Welker, on *Monday morning*.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. SHANTZ, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology, appointed at the last annual meeting of the Synod, submitted the following report, during the session of Monday evening, which was received and adopted in silence, the Synod rising for the purpose, namely:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on Ministerial Necrology present the following as their report:

During the past Synodical year one of our number, Rev. A. J. Bowers, finished his ministry with us, and entered, as we are assured, into the rest of God. His departure occurred on the morning of the Lord's Day, June 6th, 1886. On the evening of the day following, that which remained, the mortal and perishing body in which we knew him in the flesh, was, with the holy rites of the Church, laid away in the cemetery of St. Paul Congregation in Augusta, County, Va., to await the Resurrection of the last day and the life of the world to come. In hope as to his body, in joy as to his soul, we rejoice in the victory which he has obtained through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The ministry of our Brother was comparatively short and uneventful. Born within the bounds of Virginia Classis, October 13, 1836, he prepared himself for the Holy Ministry under her care as a beneficiary student, first in an academy near his home, then at the College at Lancaster, and his theological course in the Seminary at Mercersburg. As a still further preparation he spent several years at Berlin, Germany.

On his return to his native land he received licensure at the hands of Philadelphia Classis in 1870. It was not, however, until January, 1875, that, receiving a call to the Mill Creek Charge, Classis of Virginia, he was ordained to the Gospel Ministry and installed as Pastor. This was the Brother's first and only pastorate, and this but brief. In May, 1876, this relation was dissolved because of failing health, and he returned to the quiet of his old home, where he spent the remnant of his days.

A man of more than ordinary literary attainment, of good heart and purpose, we may but regret that because of physical weakness he failed in realizing what we may well judge was the fond expectation of his consecration to the work of the ministry. Short as was his active ministry, we may yet assure ourselves that his life among us was not barren of good fruits in the Church and world.

Though we may not know all God's ways, yet this we know, He doeth all things well. For this we bow in submission to His will, and with thoughtful hearts do praise His name. Respectfully submitted,

J. A. HOFFHEINS, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be tendered to the members of Trinity Reformed Church, and other citizens of Mercersburg and vicinity, for their hospitality in entertaining the members of this body; and that the *pastor loci* be requested to read this resolution at the next Lord's Day service, the Stated Clerk of Synod furnishing a copy for this purpose.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk of Synod be directed to return the thanks of the Synod to the management of the Cumberland Valley Railroad for the courtesy extended of reduced fares over their road to the members of the Synod.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and no one was found absent without permission.

The minutes were then read finally and approved, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIV.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following was adopted, shortly before final adjournment, namely:

Resolved, That when the Synod adjourns finally, it be to meet in annual sessions in the Reformed Church of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, Pa., on Tuesday evening, October 11th, A.D. 1887, at 7 o'clock.

The next annual will be a delegated Synod.

The Synod adjourned finally on Monday night, at 10:30 o'clock, October 11th, with singing a hymn, repetition of the Apostles' Creed, joining in the Lord's Prayer, singing a doxology, and the benediction by the President.

WM. GOODRICH, *President.*

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

Official Copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

STATISTICAL REPORTS.
CLASIS OF ZION.

4 Helpers or Catechists.

† 6 Stations.

CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

CHARGES.
MINISTERS.

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.

5
Statistics included in Mechanicstown charge.
Total, 32.

CLASS OF MERCERSBURG.

65

* Recently taken charge.

Total, 16.

CLASS OF VIRGINIA.

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

CLASSIS OF GETIYSBURG.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Contribution*.				POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
		Baptisms	Inf't's.	Adults	Co. & M.	
William K. Zieber, D. D.,	Without charge,					Hanover, York County, Pa.
Jacob D. Zehring,	"					Codorus, do
Moses Kieffer, D. D.,	"					Jeffersburg, Adams do
David U. Wolff,	"					Meyerstown, Lebanon do
Henry H. Hiltbush,	Second Hanover,	3 447	270	26	35	
David N. Dittmar,	Littlestown,	1 263	221	15	19	
John C. Bowman,	First Hanover,	1 290	130	12	15	
Thomas J. Barkley,	Gettysburg,	2 380	220	13	18	
Milton H. Sangree,	Arendsburg,	2 325	280	10	6	
John H. Hartman,	Lischesby,	4 600	500	33	2	
Franklin A. Guth,	Jefferson,	3 690	505	60	15	
Henry H. Sangree,	Castown,	3 305	219	25	20	
Walter E. Krebs,	Without charge,	3 467	290	8	1	
William H. Herbert,	Abottstown charge,					
John J. Stouffer,	East Berlin,	4 340	175	32	23	
Francis S. Lindaman,	Christ Church,	3 555	420		3	
		234	12	170	78 3921	54
					20 91 24 2149	2
						\$8282 00
						\$18620 00
						Total, 16.

CLASSIS OF CARLISLE.

CLASSIS OF JUNIATA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Contributions.				POST OFFICE ADDRESS.
		Baptisms.	Adults.	Infants.	Congregat'ns.	
Albert G. Dole,	Without charge,					Huntingdon, Huntingdon Co.,
Elias D. Shoemaker,	Disabled,					Bedford, Bedford
Ellis N. Kremer,	Bedford,					do do
Frederick A. Rupley,	Without charge,					do do
Henry F. Long,	Woodcock Valley,	1 142	98	4 5	7	Martinsburg, Blair
J. David Miller,	Martinsburg,	4 448	295	26	4 21	James Creek, Huntingdon do
Isaac N. Peightel,	Yellow Creek,	2 344	196	19	1 5	1860 00 Martinsburg, Blair
Calvin S. Slaglo,	Dunning's Creek,	3 297	203	16	3 8	838 00 Lorysburg, Bedford
David G. Klein,	Clear Ridge,	3 102	75	9	4 1	do do
Andrew T. G. Apple,	Friend's Cove,	3 256	216	15	2 26	do do
William A. Long,	Hickory Bottom,	3 261	85	15	9 19	740 00 Charlesville, do
Edgar S. Hassler,	St. Clairsville,	3 367	276	23	6 19	839 00 Martinsburg, Blair
Franklin W. Brown,	Schellsburg,	3 222	146	18	2 9	797 80 St. Clairsville, Bedford
Calvin U. Heilman,	Water Street,	3 394	281	21	8 32	549 50 Schellsburg, do
Samuel C. Long,	Sulphur Springs,	3 229	232	30	3 13	233 40 Alexandria, Huntingdon
Diidorus S. Diefenbacher,	Altoona,	1 430	290	42	9 42	do do
Cyrus J. Musser,	Huntingdon,	2 369	151	10	2 15	349 02 Mann's Choice, Bedford
Christian W. Sunney,	Greenfield,	4 417	424	43	2 19	340 00 Altoona, Blair
Vacant,	Everett,	3 183	110	10	3 19	243 30 Huntingdon, Huntingdon
Vacant,	Orbisonia,	3 108	80	8	2 8	1141 60 590 63 Clayshburg, Blair
		47 4872	3337	320	62 282	80 40 6594 98 Everett, Bedford
						37 50 423 00 Orbisonia, Huntingdon
						do do
						7 287 9 28 3230
						7 287 9 28 3230
						7 22631 58

Total, 18

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTER ^{Q.}	CHARGES.	Contributions.				POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
		Congs.	Members.	Uncongr'd.	Baptisms	
Julius Fueneling, George Mechtersheimer, Lewis D. Leberman, Charles M. Schaaf, Theodore G. De Lyre,	Stockton, Without Charge, San Francisco, Napa,	1 54 1 30 1 25	5 2 15	10 52 2 15	2 1 1 1 1 1	\$10 00 \$300 00 25 00 25 00
		2 109	7	10 67	3 3	\$35 00 \$1200 00
						Total, 5.

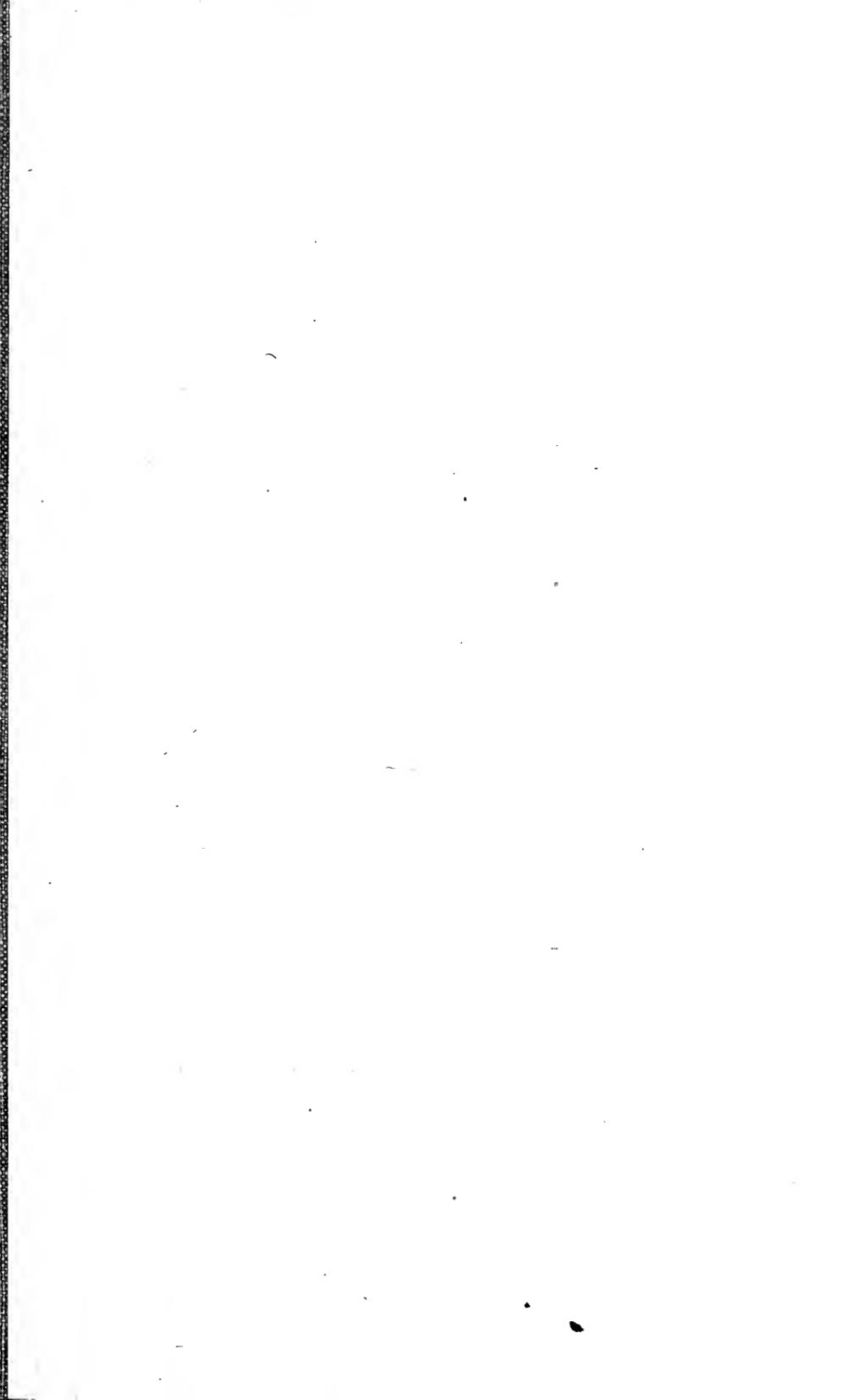
CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

* Served by Pastor Olinger, of the Lancaster C^{lassis}.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.
Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Members.	Baptisms.		Certificates.	Communions.	Excommuni- cated.	Dismissed.	Names.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	Sundays.	Sundays for the Holy Ministry.	Students for the Soborolars.	Students for the Soborolars.	Purposes.	Congregations.	Contributions.	
				Infants.	Adults.															
Zion's, -	-	-	33	4,097	2,576	332	55	236	85	3,009	30	66	131	45	3,008	7	\$3,092 00	\$11,565 00		
Maryland, -	-	-	12	32	56	6,848	4,433	515	39	460	225	5,922	140	20	191	51	5,517 00	30,651 00		
Mercersburg, -	-	-	16	23	2,701	1,509	156	67	150	117	2,253	63	13	53	20	1,996 00	2,054 26	10,770 34		
Virginia, -	-	-	16	29	2,250	1,247	79	31	115	34	1,746	39	1	22	28	20	1,219 00	1,562 00	7,233 00	
North Carolina, -	-	-	15	34	2,281	1,251	108	21	96	41	1,908	34	22	38	20	902 00	2 00	4,681 00		
Gettysburg -	-	-	16	29	4,692	3,234	234	12	170	78	3,921	54	20	91	24	2,149 00	2,822 00	18,620 00		
Carlisle -	-	-	8	23	2,360	1,260	112	23	124	38	2,064	42	28	43	23	1,645 00	1,176 00	10,931 00		
Juniata, -	-	-	18	47	4,872	3,337	320	63	282	174	4,278	103	2	84	69	40	3,230 00	2,809 28	22,631 58	
Portland-Oregon, -	-	-	8	14	464	424	93	34	39	287	4	18	6	14	397 00	1 00	89 35	2,261 30		
San Francisco, -	-	-	5	3	109	7	7	10	67	10	67	3	3	3	141	3 00	3 00	1,200 00		
Total, 10 Classes, -	-	-	146	291	30,674	19,271	1,956	311	1,607	841	25,455	509	3	293	653	260	20,204 00	33	\$22,911 89 \$120,544 22	
Synod of the United States, 10 Classes, -	215	458	76,030	44,437	5,748	510	4,268	1,620	64,641	962	1	281	2,284	547	50,655 00	72	58,744 00	301,524 00		
Synod of Ohio, -	147	297	20,691	7,449	638	704	1,633	865	16,217	389	9	526	344	225	17,721 00	22	14,835 00	77,401 00		
Synod of Pittsburgh, -	5	Classes,	58	130	12,989	9,373	810	128	660	412	10,237	290	200	206	103	7,664 00	11	8,823 96	51,937 39	
Synod of the North West, -	9	Classes,	117	149	15,108	10,547	1,289	17	905	609	10,517	145	12	387	355	144	8,234 00	19	10,252 00	59,519 00
German Synod of the East, -	5	Classes,	45	41	12,153	7,195	2,243	10	730	7,2	9,369	58	1	39	421	45	8,189 00	7 00	5,662 00	76,646 00
Central Synod, -	4	Classes,	74	115	16,735	10,452	1,185	61	870	513	10,260	198	12	303	375	98	9,728 00	22	8,893 00	116,750 00
Grand Total, 7 Dist Synods; 52 Classes,	802	1,481	183,980	108,724	14,089	1,741	10,733	5,582	146,636	2,551		382,381	4,638	1,422	122,655	186	\$140,121 85	\$604,321 61		

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